EARTH FIRST!

LUGHNASADH EDITION

August 1, 1986 Vol. VI, No. VII

THE *RADICAL* ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL TWO DOLLARS

FISHING BRIDGE SHUT DOWN

19 EF!ers Arrested at Fishing Bridge & Grant Village

by Barbara Dugelby

Campfires doused, tents packed, and ortapotties hauled away, anyone passing hrough the North Fork of the Big Lost iver on Sunday eve would have thought hat the 86 RRR was over. Not quite! or at that time about 50 EF!ers were aravaning to Yellowstone Park for nother colorful demonstration protest- ig the refusal of the Park Service to lose Fishing Bridge facilities. The plan his time included more than just bear ostumes, song & dance, and passing ut literature. By the time it was over n Tuesday 19 EF!ers, including four rieving Grizzlies, would be in handcuffs or their courageous attempts to abate he extirpation of the Grizzly in the ower 48.

Despite a day of preps, strategy essions and affinity group circles, by he time we all reached Grant Village n Monday morning no one knew quite what would take place. Within minutes, however, the pavement was full of people ainting banners, and practicing songs nd skits. By the time our official permit rrived, all 45 of us were singing and aving a hell of a time in front of the Hammond store. From 1:00 to 7:30 we sang and talked to tourists, alternating between the Hammond store and the restaurant. Bill Oliver's skit "Condos Take Over Grizzly Habitat" impressed tourists and Park employees. By the end of the day Park rangers were humming "Have to Have a Habitat." Indeed, when asked after the Fishing Bridge amphitheater performance if he enjoyed the show, head Park Ranger Dan Sholly replied, "Of course! I've already memorized the words to most of the songs!"

Fishing Bridge amphitheater was the highlight of the day. Some clever EF!ers had broken away earlier from Grant Village to spend time roaming the Fishing Bridge area generating interest among campers for the "EF! Grizzly Bear Road Show," visiting that evening. When the performers arrived, a crowd of over 150 gathered. Bill Oliver and Glen Waldeck sang sing-alongs to warm the crowd up — we didn't want to barrage them with our "Grizzly Killers" signs right at first. Everybody loved the show. "Habitat" and "We're Here to Save the Grizzly," sung to the tune of "We're Off to See the Wizard," had the crowd singing along as Bill and Bears danced through the audience. Bruce Spudworm gave a spine-chilling account of famed mountain man John Colter's first encounter with the wild Yellowstone area in the early 1800s. After the 30 minute show many approached us for literature and to ask questions. Elated at the day's successes, the weary activists went to campgrounds for a potluck dinner and rounds with the infamous tequila bottle.

Tuesday we gathered at 10 AM at the Arizona campsight near Grant Village. (Rangers tracked us all the way there!) Plans were for the majority of us to continue our non-confrontational demo at Grant Village while a smaller group, including Dave Foreman, roamed the woods waiting for the right moment to make their move.

Singing and dancing again at the Hammond store went rather smoothly. A disquieting visit from an unconsolable and misinformed old lady did cause a moment of unrest when she began spraying the demonstrators with bug repellant, cackling "Here! Give this to your bears!" [Ed. note: Is she perhaps privy to new research data on bear aversion . . .?] The Park rangers simply looked on!

Noon: All appeared normal; the rangers watched to be sure we didn't place our toes or paws over the line marked on the sidewalk. TV, radio, and newspaper crews photographed and interviewed protesters. [Ed. note: Press coverage during and after our actions was good, thanks to the noble efforts of Sally Miller and others.]

12:15: Rangers begin to stir as they take messages on their radios. Two of them quickly leave; the others stay talking nervously among themselves. Attention is no longer on the fun-loving demonstrators. Something is happening down at the Grant Village Visitors Center!

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Rangers approach Fishing Bridge blockaders. Photo by David Cross.

1986 ROUND RIVER RENDEZVOUS ENTERS THE ICE AGE

by Michele Miller

Four hundred Earth First!ers danced in snow flurries on the Fourth of July this year, celebrating what Dave Foreman called the return of the Ice Age. The 86 RRR, EF!'s seventh annual gathering of the tribe, was held along the Big Lost River in Challis National Forest, Idaho. Encircled by 11,000 foot snowclad peaks of the Boulder Mountains, EF!ers from the US, Holland, Australia, West Germany, Iceland and Canada met to attend workshops, discuss philosophy, play music, and to cultivate and renew bonds of friendship.

Of special significance this year was the wedding ritual bonding Dave Foreman and Nancy Morton, the second night of the Rendezvous. A 40 foot lodgepole pine formed the post of the wedding maypole. Multi-colored ribbon streamers wound over and under each other as people

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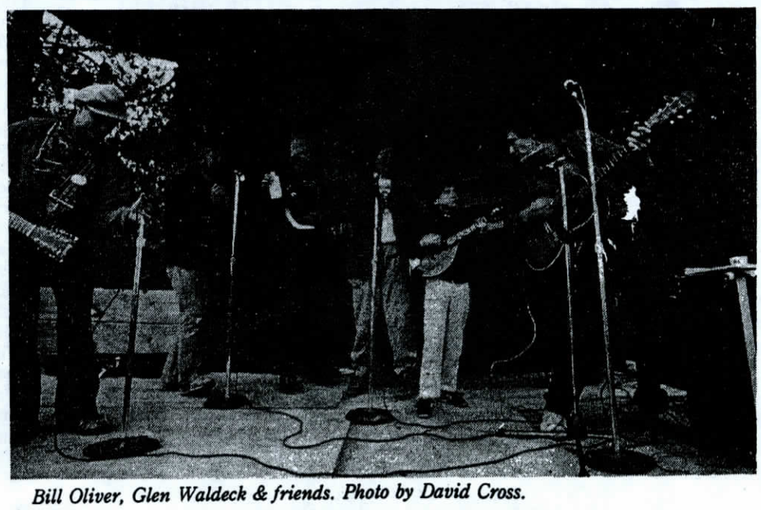

Bill Oliver, Glen Waldeck & friends. Photo by David Cross.

EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN THE DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH!

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Around the Campfire

Of course it's superstitious — even silly — in the light of modern empirical science to believe in "signs." But being a refugee in more than one way from mechanistic, rational civilization, perhaps I can be excused for having so primitive a failing as deriving succor from signs in nature. Early in July, I received two signs from Earth that told me that we — Earth First! — are doing the right thing, that, in an intuitive way, we are plugged into the Great Flow.

As a member of the Catastrophist School of Deep Ecology, I'd been planning for some time to use the inevitable collapse of the industrial state as the theme for my speech at the Round River Rendezvous. I carried with me the idea that civilization is unreformable, that our job is to hold the line, protect native diversity, until Mother Nature comes back — and is she ever pissed! — and wipes us clean with the next Ice Age (which is overdue). I take the fact that it snowed on us during the 4th of July rally at the RRR to be a sign from Mom that we're on the right track.

The second sign came several days later as our happy band of desperados was being escorted in a TW Services tour bus through Yellowstone Park to a Federal Magistrate in Mammoth to stand charges of disrupting the peace. As we drove through Hayden Valley, the bus slowed and then stopped. Across the Yellowstone River was a large, brown form followed by two smaller forms. A Mama Griz and two cubs. The first seen by a tour bus in over a year. Ranger Paul Miller passed binoculars around for all of us to look. Rationality be damned. The ecstatic pagans in that bus had just received a sign from the wild — *Keep on!*

I was impressed at the Rendezvous with the size of our tribe — there are half a dozen regional Rendezvous planned around the country this late summer and fall. Hundreds of people at the RRR own the idea of Earth First! just as much as do those of us privileged to have catalyzed it. There were times at the Rendezvous this year when I was awash in a daze from feeling the unified energy of so many on the right track. We are indeed a tribe.

With that growth from a few dozen to several hundred at a Rendezvous come strains — growing pains. There are many lifestyles, many personalities, many approaches represented among us. Sometimes those differences come into conflict when many of us gather in one spot — such as when a relatively sober family-type group is expecting a Bill Oliver and Glen Waldeck concert, but it turns into a Dionysian revel. Wild drunken spontaneity has an important place at the Rendezvous, but the folks who began chanting "drunk and boring" have a telling point as well.

As Earth Firstlers working towards a common way, we need room to be ourselves, *and also to give others room to be themselves*. There has already been good discussion on how this wide variety of styles can be well accomodated at the next RRR without spoiling anyone's experience. Together we can do it with mutual respect.

One failing of the environmental movement has been that it has operated in a vacuum, never recognizing that ecological concerns were part of the whole social question, that the deep political problems facing us were just symptoms of a fundamental ecological malaise. I am impressed with how these broad questions are being addressed in *The Earth First! Journal*. Three essays in particular in this issue connect environmental concerns with the whole question of political theory. Edward Abbey and Christoph Manes offer penetrating critiques of Andrew Bard Schmookler's rejection of anarchism; and in the process produce two of the more important essays on Anarchy of our time. Wayland Drew offers a masterful discussion of freedom and wilderness that ties into the points Abbey and Manes make. Further thoughtful dialogue along these lines is welcomed.

And, yes, not every viewpoint represented in these pages meets my approval. A case in point is Australopithecus' rather gentle review of Murray Bookchin's "The Modern Crisis." I think Murray would do well to get out of his stuffy libraries and encounter the wilderness. Another is a somewhat excessively humanitarian discussion of the population problem by Bill McCormick. His essay is valuable, nonetheless, for its superb dissection of Frances Moore Lappe's delusion that the population bomb isn't real. McCormick's humanitarianism is fortunately balanced on the population question by Chim Blea in her "Cat Tracks" column.

Shortly after you receive this issue of *Earth First!* in the mail, you will receive a 48 page tabloid — overgrazing activist Lynn Jacobs' excellent grazing newspaper. If you'd like extra copies to distribute (Lynn has 100,000), let him know and they will be sent.

The readers of this newspaper are the financial bedrock for the entire Earth First! movement. As a service to local EF! groups and task forces, we do an appeal for funds to our mailing list every fall — but it doesn't ask for contributions to this newspaper. Rather it lists the most active entities in the EF! Tribe and asks you to send your contribution directly to them. No bureaucracy, no overhead! If your local EF! group or project would like to be included in that funding appeal, write to me in Tucson.

As I look back on my sixteen year career as a wilderness activist, there are a number of people whom I view as my Elders, women and men who inspired me, taught me about wilderness and about courage, and who continue to guide me. One of the finest is Ernie Dickerman, now 75, who was a lobbyist for The Wilderness Society when I went to work for that group in 1973. Ernie, "Sage of the Smokies," was probably the key individual in the passage of the Eastern Wilderness Act, and is still fighting for wilderness in the Blue Ridge as a sparkplug for the Virginia Wilderness Committee. Ernie was recently honored as one of the five recipients of the 1986 Feinstone Environmental Award from the State University of New York's College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Congratulations, Ernie! I hope to see you on the trail sometime again soon.

—*Dave Foreman*

BOY! THIS IS FUN!
PROPERTY OF U.S. GOVT.
CANYON FROG ©4/86
LOOK!! OUT IN THE WOODS! UP IN THE TREES!
IT'S A BULLDOZER! IT'S A B-52! NO! NO!!
IT'S SUPER REDDIE!!
STRONGER THAN A GARLIC PIZZA...
FASTER THAN A SPEEDING LOG TRUCK....
ABLE TO CLEARCUT 500 ACRES IN THE WINK OF AN EYE!
WHO, SOMETIMES DISGUISED AS GOOD-NATURED
CLYDE PULPWOOD...
KINDLY PROTECTOR OF OUR FORESTS, RIVERS & WILDLIFE,
FIGHTS A NEVER-ENDING BATTLE
FOR MORE DAMS, MORE WINNEBAGOS AND
MORE FLY WOOD, MORE RAPE, MORE CONFLICT, MORE SEDIMENTATION!

EARTH FIRST!
Lughnasadh Edition
August 1, 1986
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Although we do not accept the authority of the hierarchical state, nothing herein is intended to run us afoul of its police power. *Agents provocateurs* will be dealt with by the Grizzly Defense League on the Mirror Plateau.

Contributions are welcomed and should be typed or carefully printed, *double spaced*, and sent with an SASE if return is requested. Art or photographs (black & white prints preferred, color prints or slides OK) are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. They will be returned if requested. Due to our tight budget, no payment is offered except for extra copies of the issue.

All material should be sent to Earth First!, POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703, except for poetry which should go to Art Goodtimes, Box 1008, Telluride, CO 81435.

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John Davis, Managing Editor
Dixie Dalton, Merchandise Manager
Roger Featherstone, Special Projects
Mike Roselle, Roving Editor
David Cross, Roving Editor
Art Goodtimes, Poetry Editor

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Mailing: Tucson Earth First! Group

ADDRESSES

POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703 (602)622-1371: Letters to the Editor, Manuscripts, Art, Photographs, etc. for *Earth First!*; Subscriptions, Changes of Address, Inquiries; Merchandise Orders; Clippings; General Correspondence.

POB 1008, Telluride, CO 81435 (303)728-4301: Poetry, Correspondence with Art Goodtimes.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor are welcomed. Lengthy letters may be edited for space requirement. Letters should be typed or carefully printed and double-spaced, using only one side of a sheet of paper. Be sure to indicate if you want your name and location to appear or if you wish to remain anonymous. Send letters to POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703.

Editor,

This letter is to announce the formation of the Wide Network Environmental Think Tank (WNETT). WNETT will be a non-profit think tank, whose members will decide on the arrangement in which they can work best. This is an invitation for independent scholars and academics to participate in a non-centralized research group. The goal of the group is to undertake an analysis of environmental problems and to communicate a new deeply ecological paradigm from a wide, interdisciplinary perspective. We should sustain a minimal structure within which we will communicate and work, and organize a format around model problems and intuitions which can be integrated with the needs of broader-than-just-intellectual approaches.

WNETT hopes to contribute to the intellectual aspects of increasingly sensitive conservation and development of its philosophy. WNETT offers an alternative to the typically institutionalized think tanks whose loyalties are typically humanistic and whose goals are too often those of civilization rather than of human transcendence of anthropocentric culture.

If interested in contributing to this think tank, send suggestions for defining its framework, and for communicating ideas, to: Peter Bralver, 13110 Bloomfield St., Sherman Oaks, CA 91423. If there is sufficient response to this inquiry, I will network the input from interested parties, and we can determine a definite plan to found a wide network institute outside of the social mainstream but in communication with it.

—Peter Bralver

Editor:

Re: Guest Editorial, "International Law and Monkeywrenching" by M.R. The editor asks whether "the mere fact that an action is violent makes it wrong," and finds an answer in the California Penal Code, thus failing to acknowledge the crucial distinction between morality and law. It should be no surprise, given our history on the planet, that violence of one form or another is permitted by penal codes, welfare codes, labor codes and constitutions promulgated by California and other governments. The arm of legalized violence reaches long around the globe, while the arm of illegal violence is very short indeed. The issue of whether violent ecotage is legal is entirely different from whether it is wrong.

As to legality, the author reaches the astonishing conclusion that EF! "has every legal right under existing law to act as an environmental police force" under international law. Where is it written? That argument will get you no further in the Hague than it will in Sacramento County. Fortunately, there is no international legal principle which endorses a Piney Posse Comitatus. Sure, there are myriad instances in which protection and defense of Mother Earth is or should be legal. But theories of end-justifies-means and cost-benefit-analysis become twin evils when human lives are at issue and are thoroughly abhorrent to the notion of accountability.

I am a new subscriber to your paper and wonder whether your readership supports M.R.'s stance that killing or seriously injuring people "in defense of Mother Earth" is o.k. As a lawyer, I am concerned that such action would be illegal under most circumstances. As an activist I am convinced that such actions would be a grave strategical error. And as a child of the Earth I am convinced that our Mother seeks no further bloodshed.

— Stella Levy, Sacramento, CA

To Earth First!

Last November I stayed with Earth Firstler George Draffan in Seattle. In the long and cold nights at Draffan's place I read *The Monkeywrench Gang* and *Ecodefense*. They kept me warm! George couldn't afford the oil bill, so I had to THINK myself hot.

I brought the books back to Denmark and showed them to my radical friends, and they were crazy about them.—especially *Ecodefense*. We are understimulated with that kind of literature in our country. Danes don't have tradition for radicality in politics (not since the Vikings beat up the English smartasses). It's a small country and the access to parliament and cityhalls is relatively open. Besides that, the media does make reasonable coverage of the conflicts in our society.

BUT despite the open democratic channels Denmark is built on the principles of private capitalism! Irresponsible industry, farmers and private citizens destroy the remaining nature faster than environmentalists can make legal actions against them. The situation calls for other means. We are in a state of emergency! That is why I write to you!

We are a bunch of experienced environmentalists who want to organize nature lovers, and by means of non-violent direct actions protect Mother Nature from the greedheads. Something like Earth First!. The only organization using direct action in Denmark today is Greenpeace. But they hardly ever make actions, except fundraising activities! Denmark needs an organization like EF! to take care of the landbased problems.

—Finally some facts about Denmark: 75% of all land is cultivated. 10% is forest, mostly plantations. 10% of this is deadly marked by acid rain. All rivers and lakes are heavily polluted. In summer all the beaches are overcrowded with German tourists!

Felix Fredens, Voldbjergvej 27a, 8240 Risskov, DENMARK.

Dave,

Here's my late $15, plus some extra to help keep the gears greased and the communication comin'. The last $10 is for you to send on to G.B. in northern Wisconsin so they maybe won't have to eat anymore pet ducks for a while.

Koji

Readers:

Reed Noss' article about diversity (Litha 86) makes an important point; indeed, it is one that you should stress to land managers of our National Forests, National Wildlife Refuges, and other public lands. However, I believe that you will find your comments to be far more effective if they are kept short and simple. Therefore, I offer the following terms, which I believe summarize Noss' dichotomy: LOCAL DIVERSITY vs. GLOBAL DIVERSITY. When we in the environmental movement speak of preserving biological diversity, we imply a worldwide scope. Preserving such GLOBAL diversity will at times conflict with and must take precedence over managing for LOCAL diversity. If it does not, we may have deer and rabbits everywhere, but wolves and grizzlies nowhere. That is a simple but important concept, one which we can all discuss (and teach) effectively if we use the terminology suggested above.

—Dale Jackson, Florida

Editor,

I read with relief and then outrage Tim Palmer's reference to cattle spreading Giardia in the back country ("A Month in the Mountains: California's Newest Wilderness Areas," *Sierra* magazine, May/June 1986, p.47). I had always accepted the idea that people were the agent responsible for the spread of Giardia, and that this was a form of "divine punishment" for our past sloppy bathroom habits and increased numbers in the back country. I was immediately relieved to learn that people may not be so responsible for this "curse," after all.

Relief soon turned to outrage upon the possibility that man's livestock may be the primary factor that has caused Giardia to infect nearly every pristine water source in the western US. If true, then conservation leaders who compromise on wilderness livestock grazing have made a major error and must bear shame for permitting romantic ideas about the innocence of pastoral grazing to interfere with common sense about livestock in intended-natural areas, from the framing of the 1964 Wilderness Act (the infamous "grazing clause") to the language permitted in the recent statewide wilderness bills (the truly horrible "Colorado grazing language," House Report 96-17).

Besides Giardia, Tim Palmer mentions that cattle also disperse the undigested seeds of exotic weeds and increase cowbirds (harmful to other birds) in designated wilderness areas.

—Elliott Bernshaw

Editor,

Sincere thanks for the front page exposure on how the Idaho wilderness mess has been aggravated by unnecessary compromises and ill-advised strategy. The "Wilderness State" won't stay this way for long if most western politicians of both parties have their druthers. Thanks also for staging the RRR here and for giving local conservationists every opportunity to help ourselves. Whatever Idaho wilderness bill eventually passes won't be on the EF! conscience.

I must correct the misimpression that I'm one of the most experienced environmental activists in the northern Rockies. My butt carries its share of bleeding bruises from bureaucratic boots, that's painfully true. But, just here in Idaho Falls, one guy has me beat by forty years in wildlife crusading. I may, however, be among the most frustrated with traditional wilderness tactics.

The desperate notion alluded to at the end of my anal abuse article concerns monkeywrenching a prominent election for the sake of sympathetic national attention. My pal Elmer Elk of Payette National Forest is considering a humor-oriented write-in candidacy for the US Senate this fall against incumbent Steve Symms and Governor John Evans — both of whom favor releasing virtually all wildlife habitat to multiple abuses. Elmer's campaign would demand a small part-time staff with appropriate multi-media skills. If interested and available, please contact me.

The novel prospects for having fun with the wilderness issue, gaining visibility on subsidized habitat destruction, taking the offensive to the sacrosanct political arena, and providing financial compensation to key participants make this too valuable an opportunity to let slide.

—Scott Ploger, POB 1442, Idaho Falls, ID 83403

Editor,

I would like to comment on the management of National Parks in the US and draw a comparison to the situation in some National Parks in Europe, in particular the Sarek National Park in northern Sweden. The Sarek lies north of the Arctic Circle, and contains within its boundaries a diverse combination of wild lands: tundra, mountains, glaciers, forests, rivers and lakes. There is still a small population of European brown bears in the Park. The Sarek is sometimes referred to as "Europe's Alaska," because it is so wild and remote. There is absolutely no development within the Park boundaries. There aren't even hiking trails. There is not even a road leading to the boundary of the Park. Anybody who wishes to visit this Park has to get there on foot or by canoe. You won't see a welcome sign, a visitor center, a hotel or curio shop. The Sarek is true wilderness.

Coming to the US from Germany, I was shocked to see the amount of development within American National Parks. The name "National Disneyland" seems to be more appropriate to me since whereas Parks cater more to motorized recreationists and other sorts of passive consumers than to those who would like to experience unspoiled wilderness. I suggest that the bureaucrats who manage these National Disneylands visit the Parks in Scandinavia, and learn from these examples. The major purpose of a National Park should be to preserve wilderness in an unimpaired state. And to those who would like to see the wilderness turned into amusement parks, I have one thing to say: Go to New Jersey or southern California if you insist on driving your car, but stay the hell out of the Parks!

— Peter Zmyj, Munich, West Germany

Dave, Nancy, Roger, John,

By the time you get this I'll be back on the trail and far from that ol' Mammoth jail!

I'll be touring with my multi-media show this fall throughout the Midwest and East Coast. I plan on having a table with fliers and fact sheets on different issues at each show. If folks with "favorite" issues would like exposure of their problems to Eastern ears and support from that direction, they could send their pamphlets or whatever to me for distribution. I'll be playing for several hundred people a week, so there is good potential for good contacts. Also, Earth Firstlers who would like to help organize a show in their area should contact me in August.

—Walkin' Jim Stoltz
Box 477, Big Sky, MT 59716
(406)995-4906)

USUAL DISGUSTING PLEA FOR MONEY

The Earth First! movement runs on your financial support. We don't need as much as other groups since we are grassroots, volunteer, decentralized and have low overhead. Moreover, you get to select where your hard-earned money goes. Don't send your contributions to this newspaper, send it directly to one of these hard working groups.

***Earth First! Foundation, POB 50681, Tucson, AZ 85703**
(contributions to the Foundation are tax-deductible)

***Colorado Earth First!, POB 1166, Boulder, CO 80306**

***Howie Wolke Legal Defense Fund, Box 7058, Jackson, WY 83001**

***Arizona Earth First!, POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703**

***Montana Earth First!, Rt. 1, Box 44K, St. Ignatius, MT 59865**

***Texas Earth First!, POB 7292, University Station, Austin, TX 78713**

***Oregon Earth First!, POB 605, Joseph, OR 97846**

***EF! Grizzly Bear Task Force, POB 7572, Missoula, MT 59807**

***Bay Area Earth First!, POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516**

This fundraising appeal is placed as a service to the Earth First! movement. THANK YOU for your support!

The Post Office does not forward Third Class Mail but they do charge us 30 cents apiece to send us your change of address. Please send us your change of address promptly so you do not miss an issue of *Earth First!* and we do not have to pay the Post Office to receive it. Some people using clever aliases are not receiving their copies of *Earth First!*. Be sure to notify your postperson that "Attila the Hun" or "The Animal" receives mail at your address.

SCHEDULE

***Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal* is published 8 times a year on the old pagan European nature holidays: Samhain (November 1), Yule (December 21 or 22), Brigid (February 2), Eostar (March 21 or 22), Beltane (May 1), Litha (June 21 or 22), Lughnasadh (August 1), and Mabon (September 21 or 22). Deadlines for articles are three weeks before the cover date: October 10, December 1, January 10, March 1, April 10, June 1, July 10, and September 1. The newspaper is mailed Third Class on the cover date. First Class delivery is available for $10 extra a year. Airmail delivery overseas is available for $20 a year extra.**

Rangers carry Mitch Friedman off Fishing Bridge. Photos by David Cross.

Fishing Bridge (cont)

By the time the media reaches the action, rangers are minutes away with their $1000 (?!) bolt cutters. [Ed. note: The price tag appeared to read $28.50; if they really paid $1000 for them . . . truly we are dealing with an inept agency!] Dave Foreman and Mr. G. Rizzly, aka John Davis, have chained themselves to the front doors of the visitors center while Park rangers stood ten feet away! Jeff Hoffman, also in a Griz outfit, is chained to the front door of the restaurant. [There, a whining tourist pleads with him to let her enter: "My husband is inside. I've already ordered my meal! I'll give you half my sandwich if you let me in."] The ranger in charge, trying to appear as if it's business as usual is nervously directing visitors through the office door. Rangers pace and visitors gather as Dave and John calmly stand their ground, explaining to reporters and tourists why they have barricaded the entrance.

No howls or heel kicking as they clip the lock and put the handcuffs on Foreman; but fists were raised and the battle cry "Earth First!" bellowed from many a lung as they put that beast into the squad car. John and Jeff went shortly after Dave, as did two supporters, Bill Travers and Lynn Jacobs.

With those guys taken away, we all drove to Fishing Bridge to continue the action. Not surprisingly, the Park Service had an unmarked truck planted in our caravan to Fishing Bridge. Descending the hill and over the bridge we noticed there were rangers on horses on each side of the bridge, rangers in a boat alongside the bridge and a big suburban ready to haul trouble makers away.

The group of 40 quickly made a circle on the east side of the bridge to finalize plans, and then the support group of 25 paraded down the bridge. The core group of "Blockaders" remained behind for a moment of solidarity and to give the password for the move to blockade.

For 15 minutes we paraded the south sidewalk singing loudly as RVs and cars cruised by — little eyes staring out of them as mom and dad quickly rolled the windows up. Movie cameras hummed as the bears and singers waved their banners.

Then it came . . . the cry for action: URSUS FIRSTUS!!! Within seconds bodies and bears were flying over the railing between the protestors and the road. Banners unfurled, hands clasped, and two lines of blockaders formed on the bridge, trapping a vehicle between them. And not just any vehicle, but a sewage truck! (How appropriate: EF! halts Yellowstone shit on Fishing Bridge!) One rampaging RVer, unwilling to let his family's vacation be spoiled by bears and their friends in the road, tried to push his gas-guzzling stink-mobile OVER the road blockaders! The blockaders held tight, however, and the gas pedal was slowly lifted.

The rangers gave us about five minutes to hold our ground on the bridge — enough time to have traffic back up at least 20 vehicles on both sides. As they led us away, some went limp, others walked proudly across the bridge. They waited until we were in full view of the stalled onlookers to place the handcuffs on. It was great; the kids were shocked when they put the handcuffs on Smokey!

After all 14 were brought off the bridge they moved us behind the store where, to our glee, stood a plush tour bus chartered especially for the occasion! How kind of the rangers to plan ahead! They even served pop as we waited for the Grant Village arrestees. On the way to the Mammoth courthouse, Ranger Paul Miller gave a tour of the Park. He gave us ecological information and updates on problems threatening the Park that we should fight (e.g. boats on Yellowstone's rivers). To top it all off, he somehow had arranged for us to see a Griz and her two cubs! The bus driver, a tour guide, said it had been over a year since he had seen a Griz in Yellowstone. Thanks Paul! (Doug Peacock swears this is the same Griz from which he gathered scat early Monday as a good luck piece for the protestors. Walkin' Jim Stoltz said after seeing the bears that it was a power sign. Dave agreed, saying, "It was a sign . . . that everything we're doing is right!")

After an afternoon and evening in court, 10 of the original 19 arrested, after refusing to reveal their true names, were escorted to the Yellowstone slammer. The others had given their names or were identified by Park officials. [They recognized Dave from his picture on the back of their copy of *Ecodefense.*] All eventually were cited with two charges (Disorderly Conduct and Interfering with a Federal Agency, or Violating a Permit to Demonstrate) and fined $50 per charge. Those who spent the night in the slammer complained little. Hot showers, mattresses and meals were a welcome change from cold nights on rocky ground.

Well, it cost us quite a bit of money, but it was a fantastic action! Many tourists, citizens, and rangers were reached with our message and there were over 100 cards and letters written to Superintendent Barbee just in those two days. We must continue to fight, however. Write Barbee! Write your congresspersons! Write your local newspaper! (For addresses and info, see other Yellowstone articles in this and previous issues.) For the Griz to remain in Yellowstone, Fishing Bridge must be completely closed. EF! also wants Grant Village closed. Send contributions to the Grizzly Bear Task Force (POB 7572, Missoula, MT 59807) so they can continue to work on the issue with demonstrations, newsletters, etc.

Barbara Dugelby does so much great EF! work for Texas forests, rainforests, etc., that rumors are circulating that she is in fact 2 people — a Texan and an identical sister from another planet.

Park Service secret agent who infiltrated RRR.

Leo Hund, David Barron, Mitch Friedman, Buggas, & Matthew Haun block the bridge.

Oliver & Waldeck lead EF! show at Fishing Bridge amphitheater.

Civil civil disobedience as Dave Foreman greets Ranger at Grant Village.

Metthew Haun passes out info to Fishing Bridge audience.

Bad News for Bears & Backpackers

by Arthur Dogmeat

The National Park Service has released a management plan for Yellowstone Park that restricts wilderness use in an attempt to compensate for the ill-effects the Grant Village hotel and Fishing Bridge campgrounds have on Grizzlies.

Restrictions and closures of wild areas are unjust, and they won't work. Closing wild areas won't stop bears from getting into trouble in developed areas.

Earth First!ers will recall that the NPS was supposed to compensate for building 700 hotel units in Grizzly habitat at Grant Village by closing 650 campsites in Grizzly habitat at Fishing Bridge. By law (an Endangered Species Act agreement), Fishing Bridge should have been closed following the 1985 summer season. But after spending $10 million on construction at Grant, the NPS forestalled the closures by agreeing to write an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to determine what social/economic impact the closures might have on the vulgar tourist trade in Cody, Wyoming. Park officials claim they're writing the EIS in response to "political pressure" from Wyoming Senator Alan Simpson. (See "Alan Simpson, Enemy of GRIZ," Beltane issue.) The EIS won't be done until the summer of 1987, so Fishing Bridge can't be closed until 1988.

Meanwhile, the "Interim Management Plan for Operations at Fishing Bridge and Grant Village" is supposed to offset the adverse impacts these developments have on bears. It won't work. Since 1976, biologists have attributed 90% of all Grizzly mortality in Yellowstone to problems that arose at Fishing Bridge. The NPS has responded to this fact by restricting backcountry use in Pelican Valley, a wild area near Fishing Bridge.

Yellowstone backcountry. Photo by Dave Foreman.

The valley is totally closed until July 3. For the rest of the year, day use will be permitted from 9 AM to 7 PM, but it will be closed to overnight camping.

Naturally, these restrictions will reduce human disturbance of Grizzlies in Pelican Valley. But why should backcountry use be restricted in Pelican Valley so people can park their Winnepigos in bear habitat at Fishing Bridge? The situation is the same at Grant Village. The NPS built a hotel on top of five spawning streams that were heavily used by Grizzlies. Now the hotel is open while Heart Lake, a wild area eight miles away, has been closed until July 1.

Wilderness closures won't reduce bear mortality. Hikers and campers in the wilderness aren't beating bears to death with their backpacks. From 1968-84, Park officials killed 68 Grizzlies; 32 of these were shot after conflicts at Fishing Bridge. Almost all the others were killed in developed areas. Campers leave out food and ice chests. Bears find them. Conflicts are inevitable. Closing Pelican Valley won't stop some dolt in a Winnepigo from leaving an ice chest on his picnic table at Fishing Bridge.

The interim plan does call for closing one of nine loops in the Fishing Bridge campground. Big deal. The plan shows that from 1976-84, 68% of bear incidents at Fishing Bridge occurred in the "I" loop. The NPS hopes people will be stupid enough to believe that closing the I loop will reduce bear incidents by 68%. The I loop, however, is on the eastern edge of the campground. It's the bears' access to the campground. Now that I loop is closed, 68% of the bear incidents will occur in the H loop. The whole damn campground must be closed.

Fishing Bridge is a death trap for Grizzlies, and the NPS is callously baiting the trap with tourists. The plan protects business interests in Yellowstone, not bears or people. The NPS is a lackey for the Montana/Wyoming/Idaho tourist industry.

Even worse, the US Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) is corrupt. The FWS is supposed to uphold the Endangered Species Act. Its decision to approve or veto the interim Grant Village/Fishing Bridge plan should have been based on scientific facts. But five months before the FWS wrote a "biological opinion" on the plan, the political decision to keep Fishing Bridge open had already been made. After Senator Simpson met with high ranking Interior Department officials, Yellowstone Superintendent Barbee sent National Wildlife Federation attorney Tom France a letter stating: "Regarding the closure of one of the campgrounds, both the Director and Assistant Secretary have committed to not removing any facilities from Fishing Bridge until the EIS is completed." The so-called "biological opinion" on the plan was based on politics. FWS biologists are essentially prostitutes. The Reagan administration pays their wages, and they'll say anything Ronnie's cronies want them to say.

Fishing Bridge must be closed. Don't let the Interior Department trample your rights by closing wild areas instead of Grant and Fishing Bridge. Write to your senators and representatives (US Senate, DC 20510; US House of Representatives, DC 20515) and point out the inadequacies and injustices of the Interim Management Plan for Operations at Fishing Bridge and Grant Village. Demand the closure of Fishing Bridge and Grant Village.

TWA Crash Lands in Yellowstone

by Pete Rand

There aren't actually TWA jets on the ground in Yellowstone Park, but there might as well be. The effect that the Trans World subsidiary is having on the Yellowstone Ecosystem is devastating. The Griz is being exterminated in and around Yellowstone Park because of its contact with people at developments in prime Griz habitat. Who is it that develops the hotels, restaurants, etc.? Earth First! researchers are beginning to see a link in the paper chase that points to Trans World Corporation and its subsidiaries. That link suggests possible scenarios of protests, which we will discuss at the Rendezvous.

Creating a firm paper chain has been complicated. It seems that Trans World Corporation wanted to hide its connection to Yellowstone Park by awarding the actual provision of services in Yellowstone to a distant subsidiary. The data we have so far shows that Trans World Corp. of New York City owns Canteen Corp., Hilton International, Spartan Food Supplies, Century 21, and TWA Airlines. National Boycott Newsletter people from Seattle (6506 28th Ave, N.E., Seattle 98115) supplied this information. They also gave me a computer printout that shows a "TWA Services, Inc. — Parks Division" in Cedar City, Utah. More on TWA Services needs to be uncovered; can any of you Utah EF!ers dig into this? The TWA Services address in Cedar City is 451 N Main St. 84720.

Another piece of the puzzle came via the help of the Data Center in Oakland and Karen Pickett of Bay Area EF!. The *Wall Street Journal* of 10/12/84 reports that the National Park Service and Canteen Corporation had signed a five year concessionaire contract. Putting the pieces together suggests that TWA Services, Inc. is a subsidiary of Canteen Corp. However, 'TWA Services' has become 'TW Services' (TWS) because several years ago the 'Airline' connection was dropped from all their businesses.

Indeed, the NPS does admit that TW Services is their concessionaire. A letter from National Park Service Associate Director of Park Operations, Stanley T. Albright, states that TWS "...operates nine fishing guide boats on Yellowstone Lake, as required by their concessionaire contract." The Park Service tries to justify this sort of activity and the huge cost to the Park by talking about the 22% of gross TWS income that is spent on maintenance and capital improvement of government owned facilities.

We need to learn more about the NPS/TWS scam. If you have info on a Trans World Corp./Canteen/TWA Services link, or if you have info on destructive activities by TWS in Yellowstone Park, send to EF! in Tucson.

Pete Rand is an activist and psychologist living in Northern California.

The following information is condensed from a letter to Pete Rand from Arthur Dogmeat — both of whom are active in the fight for the Griz.

The concessionaire contract between the National Park Service and TW Services is bad news for bears and the public. (To obtain a copy of the contract, write Lee Davis, NPS Concessions Office, YNP, WY 82190. Also write to TW Services, Gardiner, MT 59030 for info about their Yellowstone operation.) TW runs the hotels, cabins, restaurants, boats, horseback rides, bus tours, etc. in Yellowstone Park.

TW's contract is now due for renewal. The NPS is afraid of losing the contract because many politicians oppose it. If 50 EF!ers write to their US Representatives (House of Representatives, DC 20515), the NPS might not be able to get the contract renewed; Congress would likely interfere. EF!ers should make the following points in their letters:

1. Because of the contract, Congress has no say in how the money is spent. Normally, concessionaires pay a fee that goes back to the US Treasury. Then the NPS has to go through Congressional appropriations committee to get money. But the contract enables TW Services and Yellowstone Park officials to bypass Congress.

2. The contract gives the NPS a profit motive.

3. The contract gives TW good reason to turn Yellowstone into a "destination resort" where the accomodations and amusements are more important than the land.

4. TW uses every gimmick available to draw consumers to Yellowstone — including ads, skating rinks, wine tasting parties and support for groomed cross-country ski trails in Grizzly habitat and for opening Yellowstone's rivers to boating.

EF! often demonstrates against NPS policies in Yellowstone itself, but there's not much media in Wyoming and Montana. Put people in bear costumes in a major airport, perhaps in California, to protest TW Services (TW Services = TWA), and you could create a hell of a ruckus!

A final note: Trevor Povah, owner and president of Yellowstone's Hamm's Store Concession — Hamilton Stores — is a personal pal of President Reagan. They're in the same riding club and own neighboring ranches in California. As you can imagine, Trevor has considerable influence on Park policies.

Glacier Park Trashes Griz Travel Corridor

by Sharlon Willows

Last spring, Glacier National Park released an Environmental Assessment (EA) which will seriously affect the future integrity of the only east-west travel corridor between the Belton Mountains and the Apgar Mountains. The plan proposed numerous, intensive public use developments for the existing undeveloped sections of the Apgar/Headquarters area at the west entrance to Glacier Park.

Although not stated in the EA, a rezoning of "natural" areas to "development" areas is the basic underlying plan. Park Headquarters and Apgar Village are currently designated "development zones" on the official Land Management and Use map. Between them lies about one square mile of "natural zone" which provides the travel corridor, a narrow link between Park areas managed as wilderness. The EA claimed "a need to refine definition of use zones . . . to protect natural resource values . . ." However, research revealed contrary intentions. Existing buffers and natural values would be eliminated.

In the 1981 Biological Opinion (not yet disclosed by the Park) the US Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) warned against plans to "superimpose additional development and visitor use over an area of high grizzly use [...] the potential for situations leading to grizzly control actions and human injury or death will increase." The FWS recommended "that additional development be avoided on the presently undeveloped area between Apgar and Headquarters." Both of the Park's proposed sites for a new visitor center were located in this undeveloped "natural zone." Suitable sites in a "development zone" to the north were not considered.

The undeveloped corridor is bordered by Lower McDonald Creek and extensively used by Elk (including three calving areas), Grizzly (spring-fall), Black Bear, Mule and Whitetail Deer, and Bald Eagles. The Apgar Mountains constitute important seasonal habitat for much of the Park's Grizzly population that congregate in late summer and fall to feed on huckleberries and Kokanee salmon. The corridor is the only access route from the southern half of the Park because of a geographical barrier created by Lake McDonald.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Concerned readers should write to the new Park Superintendent, H. Gilbert Lusk, GNP, West Glacier, MT 59936. Ask that the corridor protection issue be comprehensively addressed by the "scientific community" in the Biological Assessment currently being prepared. Express strong opposition to proposed visitor use developments in this natural zone that serves as a travel corridor for the Grizzly. For more information write: Coalition for Canyon Preservation, POB 422, Hungry Horse, MT 59919.

Sharlon Willows works with the Coalition for Canyon Preservation.

The Earth First! Directory

The Earth First! Directory lists the contact points for the international Earth First! movement. It is divided into three sections: 1) National EF! offices in the United States and international contacts; 2) Active EF! Chapters or Groups; and 3) Contact persons where there is as yet no active EF! group. If you are interested in becoming active with the Earth First! movement, contact the folks listed for your area.

Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal is an independent entity within the international Earth First! movement, and is not the newsletter of the Earth First! movement. It does, however, provide a forum for Earth Firsters around the world. This directory is provided as a service to independent EF! groups. If you would like to be listed as a contact or as a group, please contact Bob Kaspar (305 N. Sixth St., Madison, WI 53704 (608)241-9426). Please send address changes or corrections to him also. If you do not have a phone number listed, please send it to him. Bob acts as coordinator for local EF! groups for the EF! movement.

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Ohio EF! protests Burger King.

LATE-BREAKING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Educator's Forum

For educators at any level here is a way to share ideas, resources, insights and inspirations with others involved in instilling deep ecological thinking in the minds of our present and future. Budding from a workshop at the Rendezvous, we hope to enlarge our "directory" and thus our resources. If interested, send your name, address, and areas of interest and/or expertise to: Tom Skeele, Box 272, Yosemite, CA 95389.

Ohio EF! Burger King Protest

On Saturday, June 21, Ohio EF! staged a rainforest protest at a Burger King in downtown Cleveland. The protest was centered around Burger King's continued use of Central American beef. Cattle ranching continues to be a major cause of rainforest destruction, especially in Central America's rapidly diminishing forests. The protest was co-sponsored by the Northeast Ohio Sierra Club and the Northeast Ohio Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides. Although there were only seven protesters, Burger King hired eight armed security guards to protect their business from our threat. We plan to have more actions in the future. For info, contact Dev Weiss, c/o Rainforest Action Network, 466 Green St., Suite 300, S.F., CA 94133 (415-788-3666). [Dev, our OH EF! contact, is an intern at the Network this summer.]

BC Greens Call For US Boycott

The following is drawn from an announcement by the Green Party of British Columbia.

"In response to French and American reluctance to join a comprehensive test ban; in recognition that the year-long unilateral test ban of the USSR is due to expire with one month; and in view of the fact that a nuclear test ban is a major step in halting the arms race, the Green Party of British Columbia calls for international consumer action against nuclear testing countries . . . The continuing of USA explosions in the face of the Soviet ban is thought to be predominantly due to the development of space weapons which depend on nuclear detonations as a power source. France is the only other country which continues to detonate nuclear devices and so France and the USA remain the only countries currently engaged in this obscenity. . . . [Thus the BC Greens] are calling for a general boycott of French and American products, wherever possible . . . Hiroshima Day, August 6, 1986, is the most appropriate starting date for the boycott. . . . [T]he Green Party recommends that consumers support, wherever possible, countries that are nuclear weapons free, such as New Zealand. For these consumer actions to be effective, it is essential that individuals write letters to the French and American embassies about their consumer action." [A BC Green told us that worthy US and French interests, such as *The EF! Journal*, would be exempted from the boycott.]

Mt. Graham Red Squirrel Hearings

Public hearings regarding the proposed listing of the Mt. Graham Red Squirrel as an Endangered Species will be held August 26 at 7PM at the City Council Chambers in Tucson, and the following evening in Thatcher (a small town near Safford, AZ). It is crucial that EF!ers (and all people opposed to the astrophysical observatory atop Mt. Graham) attend at least one of these hearings to call for Endangered listing with Critical habitat for the squirrel. For info or to discuss strategy for the Tucson hearing, call Ned Powell, 602-745-3907.

Letters Needed for Monongahela

The recently released Monongahela National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (final version) has serious flaws. One of the most serious is placing 22,500 acres of the Cranberry backcountry, adjacent to the designated Cranberry Wilderness, under prescription 2 management—which will result in "a relatively high degree of activity" from roads, recreation, mineral exploration, grazing allotments and special use permits. Protest to: Supervisor, Monongahela NF, POB 1548, Elkins, WV 26241. Say that we of Earth First! propose that the land be added to the Cranberry Wilderness, and that the area should be managed as Wilderness starting now.

—R.F. Mueller, VA EF!

Letters (cont)

Dear SFB,

I was shocked today when I read in the paper a story about a public meeting concerning proposed wilderness areas in New Mexico. It seems a large group of people showed up to voice their opinion against these WSAs. Not ranchers and loggers, but common people, elderly folks and housewives. They call conservationists, who were as usual the minority, "green bigots." Up until today, I was naive enough to think that once the facts were presented fairly, the common folk without monetary interest would surely vote for more wilderness designation. Ironically, our Forest Supervisor supported the designation. The opposition made his stand seem almost unimportant in my eyes.

Thumbing through old articles later, I came across "The Crucial Resource." It's a beautiful piece about wilderness. Surely if I had read this to that audience, their minds would have been changed.

Also when I was a child, I used to think I could talk a murderer out of killing me.

- Mark, NM

Choppers Attack Griz

by John Davis

Photo by Doug Peacock.

While much attention has been given to the problem of aircraft in and over Arizona's Grand Canyon, inadequate attention has been given to aircraft invasions of other National Parks, Wilderness Areas, and National Wildlife Refuges; including Volcanoes National Park (HI), Yosemite Park, Denali Park, River of No Return Wilderness Area, Yellowstone Park, and Glacier Park. Many ecologists are unaware that tour flights increasingly beleaguer wildlife at Bryce Canyon and Zion National Parks and disturb hikers in the Black Hills and at Chaco Canyon; and that military aircraft roar over or through Kings Canyon, Sequoia, and Olympic National Parks; Death Valley, White Sands, and Organ Pipe Cactus National Monuments; and Cabeza Prieta and Desert National Wildlife Refuges. Aircraft have been a particular menace in Glacier Park, where for the past few years one helicopter has been harassing Grizzly Bears. The following information is drawn or quoted from notes and letters by Doug Peacock (a student of Grizzlies who probably knows more about these great bears than any other person; he has been charged by them over 20 times), Park officials, and mainstream environmentalists.

In Glacier National Park (GNP) one helicopter is involved — Jim Kruger's. The chopper flies from the Vista Motel on Highway 2, 1/2 mile west of West Glacier. Kruger's chopper (65J) flies two main scenic tours: a loop over the Belton Hills to see Elk; and, the more commonly used route from mid-August on, a loop north over the Apgar Mountains to see Grizzlies.

This problem has been getting worse since 1983, yet the National Park Service (NPS) has done nothing to stop it. Kruger flies with impunity because he works for the NPS and does the Grizzly census in the Apgar Mountains of GNP with NPS research biologist K. Kendall. Former Park Superintendent Haraden almost stopped Kruger's flights in 1983, but gave in under great pressure from Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team leader Chris Servheen, who claimed they needed the numbers of Griz counted by chopper.

Kruger says he doesn't bother Elk or Griz and that he doesn't fly below 500 feet with tourists; he lies. Doug Peacock has photographs of him flying 80 feet above the trees. The best data for closing down Kruger comes from K. Kendall's "Grizzly Bear Population Trend Studies, Apgar Mountains, Glacier National Park," a NPS Progress Report, Jan. 1985 (for a copy, write: Research Division, GNP, West Glacier, MT 59936). This government report contains much evidence proving that Kruger's flights upset Grizzlies. Grizzlies run frantically from choppers and their behavior patterns are severely disrupted. Over 80% of Grizzlies (see Kendall, p.8) reacted in the strongest reaction category. "A bear's reaction was classified as 'strong' when the bear ran fast or slowly loped away when the helicopter approached." (Kendall, p.1) Even high flights upset bears. Griz are as disturbed by flights 600-1000 feet above the ground as by flights 100-599 feet above. Flights in the Apgars are becoming increasingly harmful to the bears: 73% showed the strongest reaction in 1982; 82% in 83; and 89% in 84. These facts alone are reason enough to shut down Kendall's study and Kruger's commercial tours.

Peacock noted in a letter to Superintendent Haraden in April 83: "Glacier's grizzlies are of the type of population which form aggregations or congregations to exploit concentrations of high-calorie food, at least on the west side of the Continental Divide. The Apgar Range in late summer is one of those sites. Hierarchical relationships are formed. The litter size observed over a five year period representing a sizeable sample was 1.3 to 1.4. This figure is very low. The implication is that young bears, cubs and yearlings, are being killed, quite possibly by larger bears as a result of increased interactions resulting from closer proximity due to the social gathering. If this is true, the more these grizzlies get run around, the more likely are they to succumb to mortality as a result of interactions with other grizzlies."

In September 85, in a letter to the executive director of the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund (in another attempt to use legal means to stop Kruger), Peacock explained: ". . . the situation in the southern Apgars is more severe than I thought. On Labor Day, I watched Kruger's helicopter make three overflights in less than two hours. These scenic flights ran off a number of grizzly bears and at times dropped as low as fifty feet, perhaps to thirty feet, over the trees . . . These frequent low flights appear to be affecting the social congregation of grizzlies which gather there. In 1985, for the first time in a decade, no family groups were sighted in the area of the Apgar Mountains frequented by Kruger's helicopter flight. In comparison with all previous years the age is skewed: there is a preponderance of young, subadult bears. Most alarming, the behavior of individual grizzlies is different in 1985: despite the biggest crop of huckleberries since 1976, all bears demonstrated abnormal and observable nervousness, a wariness which ordinarily diminishes with habituation to other bears in [areas of] abundant food, even in the two dominant grizzlies of the social gathering who in the past six years have never displayed such behavior. The other behavioral alteration in 1985 is toward nocturnal feeding, a shift mostly independent of weather changes. Also, the overall number of bears may be smaller, though this is harder to figure out since it depends on a number of other factors which can't be measured."

". . . part of the reason Kruger has increased the frequency of the overflights since the criticism began, is because he is emboldened by Glacier National Park who makes two annual censuses of Apgar bears using Kruger's helicopter, producing a count of questionable scientific value. Even if such data were suggestive of long term trends, a delineation needs to be made between official and scenic flights. . ."

In February 85, Superintendent Haraden answered complaints of the president of the Montana Wilderness Association (MWA) with the following statements (among others): "FAA regulations apply to all helicopter flights over Glacier National Park. In addition, there are no landings permitted except for emergency and authorized administrative use. The FAA recommends that helicopters fly not lower than 2000 feet over national parks, national forests and wildlife refuges. This is a recommendation, and not a legal requirement. The scenic helicopter flights do not have any permit from us, since none is required, nor can we deny their use. . . ."

This lack of firm guidelines on the part of the FAA and public lands agencies such as NPS is a major problem throughout wild areas harassed by aircraft. Voluntary guidelines will not suffice!

Aircraft may also threaten Grizzlies and other wildlife in Yellowstone Park. The following statements from a letter to the MWA president from a Yellowstone Park official, give an idea of the problem: "The National Park Service contracts for helicopter services during the summer for the purposes of forest fire, rescue and resource management. There are designated administrative landing areas at Mammoth, Lamar, Tower, Canyon, Fishing Bridge, Grant Village, Old Faithful, South Entrance, Mt. Holmes Lookout, Mt. Sheridan Lookout, and at Lake Hospital. The landing of helicopters at other than these locations must be for emergency purposes (fire or rescue) or have the approval of the Chief Ranger.

"Administrative use is limited both by policy and by financial requirements. Other agencies such as the US Geological Survey and Soil Conservation Service that wish to use helicopters within the park must follow National Park Service policy and are briefed on our restrictions. Practices such as low flights (below 500 feet) over developed and thermal areas, disturbing wildlife, and unauthorized landings are prohibited."

"Yellowstone National Park also uses a contract Super Cub for wildlife and bird counts and through an interagency agreement with the US Forest Service uses fixed wing aircraft for fire patrols, smokejumpers, and fire retardant operations as needed.

"At the present time scenic flights are offered from Jackson, Wyoming, and West Yellowstone, Montana. These are fixed wing operations since the market for helicopter flights does not yet [] appear profitable for private enterprise. . . ."

The pervasive problem of aircraft in wild areas is not being adequately contested by legal means. In Grand Canyon, Park officials allow tens of thousands of noisome flights each year and have developed a set of alternatives to deal with this problem which would not at all reduce the invasions of aircraft. In the River of No Return, hunters have access to dozens of landing strips within the Wilderness Area, and there appears to be no major effort to change this. In Glacier National Park, excepting the work of Peacock, legal efforts have been scarce and ineffective. It is time for a comprehensive campaign by all environmental groups to take back our National Parks, Wildlife Refuges, and Wilderness Areas from aircraft.

Letters (cont)

Dear Dave,

I'm feeling hypocritical sending for my resubscription as I'm due to start work in a few days as a seasonal employee for the Forest (gag) Service. It's hard to know what to do for money while trying to raise kids in this rural area of Northern California. But one of my justifications for this attempt at "working from within" is that I've had the pleasure of planting several thousand trees over the last six years and I believe most of them are pushing their way out of the brush toward the wild blue.

Another point of confusion for me is the fact that this same agency had me locked up for a weekend a couple of years ago for being on a National Forest when it was closed to the public. The magistrate was never able to explain how they can close public land to the public.

I guess this letter is a way of trying to talk myself out of accepting this employment. I'm hoping, however, that if this fails and I jump into the mire, I'll be able to keep my head above the muck long enough to read another year of the journal. I'll try to get to the RRR at which I promise to make myself available for the casting of stones. I'm also considering a sort of monthly "tithe" to the Foundation as long as I'm receiving this sap-stained money. Other suggestions from you or other creative thinkers will be respectfully considered. But go easy on a guy . . .

—Another Dreamer

Editor's reply: Don't feel bad, there are many good Forest Service employees — and some of them are undercover Earth First!ers. Even one of our founders.

Dear SFB,

Thanks for the books. Seven people were arrested in Minneapolis on Ash Wednesday protesting the 3M Corporation. They were peaceful individuals who have organized together for 15 years trying to persuade 3M from building military weapons. Trespassing was their crime. But who is listening? I'm no longer just listening; your book has turned a passive stressed/pissed individual into an organized, rational active environmentalist. Thanks so much for the guidelines for appropriate behavior.

—South Dakota

Dear SFB

"Go through the process." Good advice? In theory, yes, but in fact, as many EF!ers know, that's the way to get put off, put down, and worse.

Here's how the "legitimate channels" are working for the landowners and bay users around Straight Bay in Maine. It began with a legal notice in an obscure weekly informing us that an individual had applied for a preliminary permit, a precursor to a license to dam our bay. A license from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission carries with it immense powers, like the right to eminent domain, the right to take private property, to cause uncompensated harm to landowners and clammers, to violate the rights of the wildlife.

But in the legal notice it said there was a chance to object — an "administrative appeal." Anyone could write a letter as protest. And nearly 100 people did! Good letters from people who believed in the process went to the Washington offices of FERC.

Shortly after the deadline for the letter writing, I went to the offices of FERC. We had so much confidence in the process that I went to find out what to do next. My visit to Washington was a real eye opener. For starters, the individual in charge of this project waved his hand at the file bulging with letters. "These letters don't mean a thing," the FERC employee said. "This stupid government gives more protection to a stupid eagle's nest than it does to an aborted baby."

I came back from Maine sadder but wiser. I came back to the frustrations of using the "process": letters written but never answered, requests made but never acknowledged.

We'll still use the "legitimate channels" and the administrative and legal options. They take time and money and a high tolerance for frustration, but we have to try. But it's not hard to see why folks take their protests to the streets, why they put down their pens and start waving signs with the EF! word. And the next time the *Wall Street Journal* complains about Earth First! and wants to understand why housewives are radicalized, have them call me. I've got a case history for them.

Anyone who wants to help prevent the destruction of Straight Bay could contact the Straight Bay Association, RFD 1, Box 149A, Lubec, ME 04652. Thanks for the help.

—Nancy

Lubec, Maine

Douglas Acid Rain Plant Closed!

by Karen Coulter

The coalition of Groups Against Smelter Pollution (GASP) won a major victory when the Phelps Dodge smelter in Douglas, Arizona, the largest industrial point source of acid rain causing sulphur dioxide (SO_2) in the US, was closed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the state of Arizona for failure to comply with State Implementation Plan (SIP) SO_2 emission restrictions.

The Phelps Dodge corporation (PD) was notified by the EPA that SIP levels must be met immediately. The smelting furnaces were shut down and employees were informed of a "temporary layoff" as of the last shift on July 9. The PD plant had been operating with a suspension from SIP requirements since May of 1985, when the company applied for a Non-ferrous Smelter Order (NSO) which would exempt them from the emission limitation of the federal Clean Air Act. On July 10, the state of Arizona insured that the PD plant would remain closed until SIP requirements are met, by denying the 1986 operating permit for which the plant had applied last January.

Until July 10, the Douglas smelter, due to federal government and state agency cowardly sanction, had been functioning with no valid operating permit and in violation of federal clean air standards. PD has long displayed smug confidence that they would continue to get whatever exemptions they wanted in order to earn the highest profits possible. This attitude may be shattered now: in line with the overdue EPA and State action, the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) and the Arizona State Attorney General finally also woke up to their responsibilities — the ADHS was responsible for reviewing the PD permit application and with the denial of the permit, the Arizona State Attorney General issued an Abatement Order that mandates plant closure.

Grim Reaper presides over Douglas Smelter Die-in. Photo by Ted White.

Fortunately, only a court injunction can affect the Abatement Order. Also, the SIP requirements call for the smelter to emit no more than 188 tons of SO_2 per day, whereas the plant has been discharging up to 1100 tons of SO_2 per day. Thus it is unlikely that PD will be able to reopen, due to the loss of corrupt profit (obtained through their ability to process materials without the installation and use of expensive pollution controls that other smelters have been forced to use) and the plant's age. Given PD's past statements that if they were denied emission limit exemptions they would close the smelter, it appears that the only way this closure would not be permanent is through underhanded manipulation of enforcement agencies by PD to obtain exemption reinstatement. This possibility is not to be dismissed, as PD has managed to stay operating with no pollution controls in clear violation of the Clean Air Act for over a decade while other smelters have been forced to comply with the law. Yet in the course of PD's life, this is the hardest blow they have been dealt. The EPA still has not decided whether to grant PD a Non-ferrous Smelter Order. In the face of PD's historic violations and the recent agency action, it would be ludicrous to grant them one now.

Finally the Phelps Dodge acid reign has stopped. (Also, finally a contract has been given for an acid plant to be built at the next biggest SO_2 source in the region, the Nacozari smelter in Mexico.) Now we must pressure the EPA to follow through with the denial of PD's NSO application and to hold firm in requiring the company to install controls or stay closed. This not the end of the acid rain problem in the West! It is time to pursue other point sources that have not installed the best available control technology with the tenacity shown by the GASP coalition in pursuing PD. It is also time to tackle the problem of non-point sources such as NOx-polluting motor vehicles. Perhaps the best way to deal with these other sources is by supporting the passage of comprehensive legislation. Such legislation could be the result of a combined version of S 2203 and HR 4567. (See other acid rain article this issue.)

Analyzing our victories should make us see our potential to turn the destructive tide as a whole and the most effective ways to do it.

Karen Coulter was among the activists most helpful in forcing the closure of PD.

A Passage Through India II

by John Seed

John Seed has been traveling through India this winter. This is his second report to Earth First!

Now leaving Trivandrum and the destruction that will make Kerala state an uninhabitable wasteland desert from one end to the other within a few decades, from mountain-top to the sea. It is writ large all over the landscape, but there seem few able or willing to read the landscape and weep. Last few days with Satish and Santhi have been the most exciting of this trip. They have an incredible grasp of the large number of disciplines necessary to correctly interpret the signs — biology, ecology, soil science, hydrology, anthropology, conservation, and above all, love of nature and a worshipful attitude.

They give us sad news. Victims are dying now for want of clean water and good food. Kerala's population density is 1000 people per square kilometer, up to 6000 and surpassing Hong Kong in some areas. India's rainforests — now confined to a few viable core areas in Assam, Arunachel Pradesh, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Western Ghats of Karnataka and Kerala — will be utterly annhilated within five years.

We went for a day into a rainforest with them: two hour bus ride through the paddies, coconuts, bananas, cassava and rubber, then tea and pepper and cardamon where the rainforest used to be. We saw all levels of the process. Access to an area is created by the first disturbance — a dam or logging road. Then squatters encroach, using these roads, and plant their crops. Annual fires make their way up every ridge separating the remaining rainforest "cholas" into fragments in the gullies, destroying the cholas from all sides. The violent monsoon, averaging 8000 millimeters of rain and often confined to a three or four month period, gouges the bare soil and exposes bedrock. As the cholas disappear, the perennial streams vanish. The giant living sponge, no longer captures and slowly releases the water. The year becomes a sequence of flood and drought. The whole sequence from primary rainforest to granite may take as little as four years.

Meanwhile, down at the dam, whether for hydro-electricity or for irrigation, soil from the mountains quickly destroys its storage capacity, and silt and nutrients which once fertilized the coastal lie locked up and useless. What's more, up the roads made to construct the dam comes ..... the Forestry Department. Advised by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and others, the Department clearfells everything and plants eucalyptus.

Ah, poor captive eucalyptus enslaved here on a six-year rotation ... where the prime lowland tropical rainforest once stood. Shedding few leaves and drying out the climate. Can't drop enough leaf litter to protect the thin soil (which previously used the biomass of the rainforest to store the nutrients out of reach of the driving rain) which vanishes in the first or second monsoon. Then the ground turns into laterite.

The dams may take twenty years to build. Eucalyptus is planted when the road is built and there may be several rotations in the catchment while the dam is being constructed. The dam and the forests are controlled by two different Government Departments, and cooperation between them is minimal. Meanwhile both eucalyptus growers and dam builders and their families destroy the previous water repository — the soil/biomass. Each year, the rainforest fringe dries up and the inevitable fire builds up its intensity through the grass and pushes the edge of forest back. Then, before the newly cleared ground has time to recover, rain pounds the exposed soil and by the time the fires start the next year, there's another steep grassy section.

The thousands of dam builders encroach upon the flat lowland sections turning them to paddy, rubber or cassava. Some expert appointed by the State Government has recommended goats to improve their lot, so another mad twist in the endgame ensues. Other experts say that it is trees that cause landslips. Trees sway in the wind above the contour canal carrying the irrigation water, and their roots crumble the soil, so to stop the irrigation canal from sweeping away, you must cut the trees above it.

Hitler had nothing on the FAO — mass murder (they didn't mean to, of course) as the eucalyptus — compelled by its nature — turns its environment into an Australian savannah biome.....

If the eucalyptus get to their sixth birthday, they're clearfelled, and up to 140 cubic meters of biomass can be removed. But by the third and last rotation the yield is down to 20 on the best country, and in poorer areas, yield may be down to 1 cubic meter per hectare and the guy who buys it is after the regrowth for firewood — last scrape of the pie and then starvation. Brought to you compliments of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Bank, and a host of local extras.

So, back to our tale. Most of the watershed of Kerala has already suffered this fate, and winning the Silent Valley seemed good enough to most conservationists. Dams are being built on the rest. Kerala is just one narrow watershed draining into the Arabian Sea, nowhere wider than 40 kilometers. So, as the last of the forest cover disappears perennial water sources dry up and floods hit the lowlands. When it's dry, there's no irrigation nor anything to drink and the saline intrusions, meeting no resistence from the freshwater, destroy the only fertile land we had, the alluvial plains. As salt destroys this vegetation, you wish they hadn't cut down the mangroves and killed the coral reef with silt, because the sea pounds the coast and the coast is captured by the sea. Population density down here may be as high as 6000 per square kilometer in places and this doesn't help. India's population is expected to increase by another billion before stabilizing. Anyone believing this can't have visited the place. Kerala will be totally uninhabitable within 30 years. In neighboring Goa, 20% of the ground is covered by open cut iron ore mines and tailings, while much of the rest turns to roads and ports.

As for replanting, the statistics are impressive, but the trees are all plantation ecyalypts or plantation teak (another tale of woe); or the replanting is part of the Forestry Department's beautification program which works thus: When conservationists are kicking up too much of a fuss, you beautify your image by planting Australian Gervillias on the grassy flammable slopes. You site your beautification area somewhere near one of those rubbishy cholas (rainforest gully fragments) because this is the only place where there's enough soil.

John Seed is now back in Australia after an enlightening yet depressing trip through India.

NUKES IN INDIA

by John Seed

Activists in the south Indian state of Karnataka are raising their voices against a proposed uranium mine and the construction of the state's first nuclear power plant virtually on top of this proposed mine. Both the mine and the power plant would be located in thick evergreen forest of the western Ghats, and forest activists have expressed concern about the lack of any assessment of possible environmental impacts. They are aware of the fact that rainforest species have radiation tolerances in the same order as human beings — not surprising considering that humans are themselves a species only recently emerged from such forests.

The chairman of India's Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), Raja Ramanna, has visited Karnataka to try, unsuccessfully, to allay people's fears and stifle opposition. The *Times* of India in its editorial of May 9, 1984, commented on Ramanna's "utter contempt for the principle of public accountability." He has admitted that defense research laboratories have achieved the capability of developing a nuclear bomb. The people of Karnataka are not reassured by recent statements of the leaders of India and Pakistan promising not to bomb each other's nuclear power stations.

The history of previous nuclear plants in India gives rise to grave concern. For example, the first nuclear plant in India, the Tarpur reactor commissioned in 1969, is reputed to be the dirtiest in the world ("a prime candidate for a major nuclear disaster" - Ralph Nader). According to *The State of India's Environment*, "Leaking nuclear fuel rods have turned the insides of Tarpur into a radioactive purgatory. Between 1000 and 1500 'temporary workers' have to be used for maintenance every year." These "temporary workers" are illiterates from nearby villages who clean the fuel rods by hand. According to the *Deccan Herald*, the workers' radiation level is 270% higher than allowed in the US. But as Ramanna pointed out when urging that India not adhere to international safety standards, "we Indians cannot afford too much money on the

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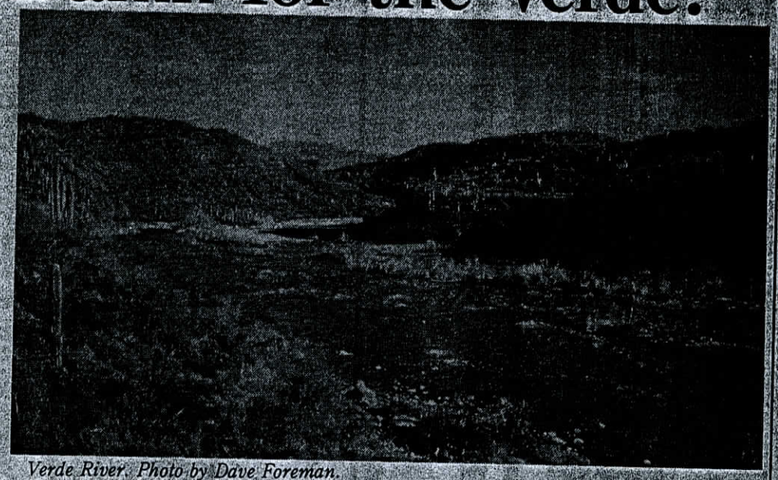
Another Damn for the Verde?



Verde River. Photo by Dave Foreman.

The death of Orme Dam in Arizona in the early 1980s did not end the proposals for other dams to fulfill the supposed needs of a growth-oriented state. We presently face proposals calling for the construction of Cliff Dam on the Verde river and for modifications to increase storage capacities of existing reservoirs along the Verde, Salt, and Agua Fria rivers. Arguments against Cliff Dam often center around the desert-river nesting Bald Eagles of Arizona. There are, however, many other reasons to oppose Cliff Dam. This article outlines the background of Cliff Dam and its associated problems.

The Cliff Dam proposal has its roots in the late 1800s, when vast areas covered with native vegetation were cleared for an expanding agricultural industry. The development of canal networks to irrigate these areas required the construction of storage dams to supply irrigation water and to halt yearly flooding. Four dams along the Verde and Salt rivers were completed from 1911 to 1946 to fulfill agricultural needs. These dams and those on the Gila and Colorado rivers paved the way for the largest water-works project in the American West — the Central Arizona Project (CAP).

By 1947, the US Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) completed plans for the CAP to divert Colorado River water for irrigating crops in central and southern Arizona. Present CAP plans call for Colorado River water also to be used to support growing metropolitan areas with dwindling groundwater supplies. The total cost of the CAP, including Cliff Dam, will be over $3.7 billion.

The central Arizona rivers, including the Verde and Salt, are the concern of the CAP's Regulatory Storage Division which, among other charges, is to (1) conserve flows of the Salt, Verde, and Agua Fria rivers, (2) reduce flood damages, and (3) provide structural safety of existing USBR dams on the Salt and Verde rivers. Orme Dam was proposed for near the Verde-Salt confluence in the late 1960s for flood control and water storage. Orme Dam died by the early 1980s primarily because of pending Indian lawsuits, but also because it was shown to be too expensive and too destructive of riparian habitats.

All government proposals such as Orme Dam come with alternatives. If the proposed plan (the "preferred alternative") is deemed unacceptable by the public, then alternatives are considered. Seven alternative plans were prepared by the USBR, for its Draft Environmental Impact Statement, as well as an eighth "no action" plan. Alternative Plan 6, accepted by the USBR as the best alternative to Orme Dam, called for the construction of New Waddell Dam (replacing the existing Waddell Dam) and Cliff Dam (placed between Horseshoe and Bartlett dams), with structural improvements for Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain dams. All seven action alternatives included Cliff Dam.

The lack of a no-Cliff-Dam-action alternative infuriated environmentalists. The USBR presented a ninth alternative in the Final EIS which excluded Cliff Dam but was otherwise equivalent to Plan 6. However, the public was not given the opportunity to comment on Plan 9. Nevertheless, Secretary of Interior Hodel approved Plan 6 in 1984 with the condition that further analysis was necessary to delineate the impact of Cliff Dam on the endangered Bald Eagles.

Bald Eagles successfully served as the banner of environmentalists in the fight against Orme Dam. The finding of new eagle nests near Cliff (nine days after Hodel's approval) and New Waddell dam sites by USBR biologists caused controversy again about eagles and dams. The construction of Cliff Dam would jeopardize the Cliff pair. At this point, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) was brought in to determine the impact of Cliff Dam on the Bald Eagles nesting in the area.

The opinion of the FWS, released in the summer of 1985, is that the Cliff Dam nest would be jeopardized by inundation from Cliff Reservoir. Furthermore, the FWS identified greater threats. Stream flow reduction caused by CAP upstream water exchanges might cause the presently unregulated portions of the Verde and Salt rivers to become intermittent. This would destroy the fisheries necessary for the successful nesting of the majority of eagle pairs. Thus Plan 6 would jeopardize nearly the entire southwestern Bald Eagle population.

The Salt River Project (SRP) controls and manages most of the waters on the eagle-used rivers and creeks of central Arizona that would be exchanged with Upper Verde Valley consumers for their CAP allocations. The FWS decided that determination and establishment of in-stream flows necessary to support the eagle prey base was more important in protecting eagles than avoiding the potential loss of nesting pairs caused by Cliff Reservoir. The FWS, USBR, SRP, and the Arizona Game and Fish Department made an agreement to determine these minimum instream flows. Water exchanges exceeding these minimum requirements will not be allowed. Other agreements reached between the USBR and the FWS call for (1) establishment of Bald Eagle management areas along 270 miles of central Arizona streams and rivers where adequate flows and riparian habitat will be protected and enhanced; (2) initiation of a study to answer questions regarding eagle population movements, recruitment, foraging behavior, and prey base; and (3) a program for revegetation of riparian areas where natural regeneration no longer occurs. The fulfillment of these agreements, in the final opinion of the FWS, would ensure that Plan 6 will not reduce the overall nesting and foraging habitat for desert river nesting Bald Eagles and will thus remove them from jeopardy, while allowing for the construction and maintenance of Cliff Dam and the other components of Plan 6.

This FWS jeopardy opinion is clearly unacceptable. The issues of Cliff Dam and upstream water exchanges should be separate. Upstream water exchanges require their own FWS consultations wherever they would threaten eagle nesting. However, the many unknowns about eagle biology and required in-stream flows would make it difficult to use eagle-related factors to halt upstream water exchanges. Also, if Cliff Dam was not allowed by the FWS opinion the USBR would not be compelled to fund the needed studies. Upstream water exchanges could then proceed without an understanding of eagle requirements. Thus eagles and eagle advocates are caught in a political squeeze play. By halting Cliff Dam, environmentalists could indirectly threaten eagle pairs elsewhere.

Upstream water exchanges, however, should be halted for other reasons. Many native fish species in Arizona have disappeared or are in serious trouble. One such species, the Spikedace, is presently proposed for federal Endangered status. This species occurs in unregulated reaches of the Verde River and could halt upstream water exchanges if listed. This would release Bald Eagles from the political squeeze play, but Cliff Dam could still be built.

There are many environmental and economic reasons to stop Cliff Dam that do not receive the fanfare that eagles do. The impacts of Cliff Dam on riparian habitats are manifold. Riparian habitats in Arizona are the most important habitats for many vertebrate species. The complete loss of mature stands of riparian trees and the disappearance of free-flowing streams and rivers is imminent due to managed flow patterns, intensive cattle grazing, and intensive conversion of riparian vegetation into agricultural production. Cliff Dam would further degrade riparian systems by inundation behind the dam and reduced flows downstream.

Many species of birds, amphibians, reptiles, and fish which are not listed as Threatened or Endangered are threatened nevertheless by the loss of riparian habitat. Since these species lack the high profile eagles have, they are largely ignored by the powers that be, including traditional environmental groups.

The politically strongest objections to Cliff Dam are economic. Cliff Dam would be funded primarily by taxpayers at a cost of $385 million. Independent engineering firms have stated that floods can be controlled without Cliff Dam for a small fraction of Cliff's cost. An excellent review of viable alternatives to Cliff Dam for flood control is included in Frank Welsh's book *How to Create a Water Crisis*.

The purported benefits of Cliff Dam are at best questionable, so why is Cliff Dam being pushed by the USBR, SRP, and the Phoenix metropolitan power mongers? The answer is Rio Salado, a real estate fantasy to be built in the Phoenix portion of the Salt River floodplain. In this scheme, Cliff Dam is important for reducing the threat of flooding from a volume capacity of 200,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 55,000 cfs. This volume capacity would allow the hotels, businesses and homes for 36,000 people to be developed in the middle of the floodplain.

Dreams of a developed Salt River floodplain, though, are quickly becoming nightmares for local politicians, due to unpopular property tax increases and the huge cost of cleaning up toxic wastes that now fill the river bed. Both of these are necessary for implementing the Rio Salado development plan. Also, a disastrous flood could occur despite all the Plan 6 dams and modifications. A flood today like the one in 1891, would send 93,000 cfs through the Rio Salado area and could wash away development in the Salt River bed; this fact, supported by USBR data, is not discussed by Rio Salado promoters. One large flood could destroy all that will be built at the expense of the wildlife along the Verde River.

Nature will eventually win over anything man can do to the environment. The flooding along the Colorado River in 1983-85 generated serious doubt about man's ability to control desert rivers. Man continues to ignore the basic lesson that if you build in a floodplain, you will be flooded. The entire riparian ecological commmunity is in desperate need of protection but no legislative program or vast public support group exists to shelter it. The death of Cliff Dam and fights against future water projects must come through increasing costs by delays and publicizing on a grand scale the actual costs of such projects.

The author has worked on Arizona water issues for nearly a decade, and is concerned with issues where facts are distorted or ignored in order to "cram" projects "down the throat" of the ordinary TV-watching citizen. A self-proclaimed government weasel, the author is concerned with the amount of soul-selling and job-preserving that goes on to kiss development-oriented behinds.

India Nukes (cont)

safety aspects of nuclear technology." By 1980 Tarpur had logged an impressive 344 accidents. These were euphemistically described as "unusual occurrences" by the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) — although with an average of one a week, they can hardly be called "unusual."

"India's other adventures in atomic energy have fared no better. The Rajasthan Atomic Power Station was shut down 251 times during its ten-year life span. The Kalpakkam Atomic Power Project, India's third atomic power station, was shut down within hours of being inaugurated by the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1983. Undaunted by these setbacks, the DAE plans to set up another 22 plants in the next 15 years at a cost of about 20 billion dollars, which would theoretically raise the share of nuclear energy in electricity production from the present 2.5% to 10%."

Unfortunately for the DAE, opposition is mounting, although as the *Deccan Herald* pointed out in an editorial, "In India the debate on nuclear technology has barely begun. The level and intensity of discussion is nowhere near that in advanced countries." Perhaps this has something to do with the limited resources available to the anti-nuclear groups, especially compared to the slick PR available to the nuclear establishment. According to a local activist, the Sirsi area was chosen as the site for the nuclear plant because the people of the area have no history of organizing themselves.

At first the local Sirsi newspaper was against the establishment of the nuclear plant and uranium mine in the district. But since being bought off by the power barons, they no longer accept articles by opponents of the project. In the neighboring state of Kerala, 'environmental' opposition has thwarted DAE plans to site the Kaiga nuclear power plant there. Citizens Against Nuclear Energy (CANE) has greatly embarassed of the Hegde government.

So, how can Americans help CANE and other local groups? This question must be approached sensitively as there is considerable feeling that some of the Indian NGOs have been corrupted by the "aid" of foreign groups and agencies. However, there is a real chance to stop this "development" in the rainforests of Karnataka, and CANE agrees that they need more information about uranium mining, nuclear power and struggles elsewhere in the world. A film or slides about the issues could also be useful. If you think you can help, write to CANE first to be sure that the material is relevant. CANE, 153(B) First Floor, 5th Main, 4th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore 560010, INDIA.

Note: *The State of India's Environment* is a state-of-the-art publication detailing India's environmental crisis. We are not aware of an equivalent publication for any other country. The hard-cover version costs about $40 and the soft-cover version is about 1/3 this price. For exact cost, write: Centre for Science and Environment, 807 Vishal Bhawan, 95 Nehru Place, New Delhi 110019 INDIA.

John Seed is our correspondent in Australia and one of the world's leading rainforest experts.

MOVING? SEND US YOUR NEW ADDRESS!

British Columbia Wilderness Struggle Intensifies

by Barbara Quackenbos

The controversy over the Stein Wilderness located in the Southwestern Interior of British Columbia, has taken on new dimensions.

Often described as an island in a sea of stumps, the Stein River Valley consists of over 400 square miles of roadless wilderness. Among large species of wildlife who take refuge here, and whose numbers are rapidly declining are: Grizzly and Black Bear, Cougar, Mountain Goat, Mountain Sheep, Mule and Blacktail Deer, Moose, and Wolves. The whole valley, with high alpine meadows and lakes plus a good trail from the mouth of the canyon, is popular for hiking and fishing. The Stein Valley has cultural significance for two native bands, the Mt. Currie Band at the source, and the Lytton Band at the mouth where the Stein pours into the Fraser River. Many archaeological sites, including petroglyphs, pictographs, sacred caves, and pit house and cache pit remains, stand in the valley as testimony to this historical fact.

According to BC's provincial government, the Stein Valley is part of a "Provincial Forest," meaning the province owns rights to the land and the resources therein. Stein timber is in the Lillooet Timber Supply Area. Since 1976, when the government decided to log the Stein, the Forest Service has made unilateral decisions as to how and when logging would proceed.

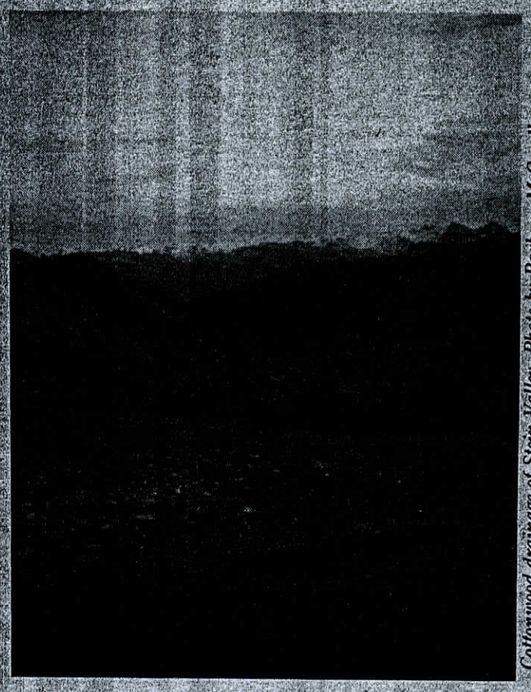
The Stein Coalition formed in 1977 to gather support for Stein preservation. They claim that "there are no lakes under 2500 feet in altitude within a hundred miles of Vancouver that have not been logged to the shoreline, dammed, or both" — except in the Stein. Unable to convince the powers that be to preserve the Stein through Wilderness or Park status, the Coalition elected to work within the government planning process.

The fight to save the Stein intensified in 1985 when road building became imminent. At this time, the Lillooet Tribal Council, of which the Mt. Currie Band is a member, initiated action to halt development on their traditional lands. They joined a handful of environmentalists and local citizens and hosted a cultural festival in the alpine meadows of the Stein River Watershed. The Voices For The Wilderness Festival drew over 500 people. (See Samhain Edition, 1985, p.11.) Native medicine men held sacred ceremonies. Native elders spoke of the meaning of the Stein to their culture and the importance of preserving the Stein.

Through media coverage of the event, the Stein Valley situation became known to people throughout BC. The Lytton Band stated their opposition to any development in the Stein before the Nl'akapmx Nation General Land Claim was settled. The Lytton Band would interpret road building as an aggressive act by the provincial government aimed at destroying the spiritual integrity of the valley prior to a Land Claim agreement. A road into the valley would weaken the Lytton Band's prospects of winning their land claim.

Natives and environmentalists attempted to set up a meeting with the Forest Minister, Tom Waterland, to avoid a confrontation at the construction site with loggers and road contractors. Waterland refused to meet them. In spite of the appointment, by Environment Minister Austin Pelton, of an eight person committee to study land use in contentious areas, Waterland ordered the logging company to initiate road building plans. In November, 1985, BC Forest Products selected a road contractor. Had it not been for the owners of a farm at the mouth of the Stein contesting land expropriation for the road, construction would have begun immediately. A court case caused a temporary suspension in road building.

Meanwhile, on Lyell Island in the contentious South Moresby area of the Queen Charlotte Islands, 72 Haida Indians had been arrested for blocking logging access to the island. The Haida have for years used governmental options to try to stop clearcutting in their homelands. They finally resorted to a blockade to force the provincial government to enter the Land Claims issue. Haada Gwai, the Haida name for the Queen Charlotte Islands, has been home to hundreds of generations of Haida people. (See Brigid Edition, 1986, p.14.) In the 1700s, when Europeans arrived, there were 10,000 Haidas. By the 1800s, after several smallpox epidemics, the population was 585. In the late 1800s, the remaining Haida united and moved north to Skidegate. Archaeologists believe there are up to 450 archaeological sites in the Charlottes. Ninstints, on Anthony Island, has the world's largest collection of totem poles in their natural setting. This is a UNESCO World Heritage Cultural Site. Today the Haida still hunt and gather traditional foods, and hold traditional social ceremonies.



Cottonwood drainage of Stein Valley. Photo by Barbara McCandless.

The South Moresby archipelago has unique examples of biological evolution of plants and animals which escaped glaciation. There are subspecies of animals and plants on South Moresby that exist nowhere else in the world. The Islands are breeding grounds for numerous species of sea birds and spawning grounds for many species of fish. Windy Creek with four miles of spawning gravel is a run for 56,700 Pink Salmon. It is also spawning grounds for Coho, Chum, Rainbow Trout, Cutthroat, and Dolly Vardin. Clearcutting on the Charlottes, however, has destroyed wildlife habitats and many fish spawning streams.

The Haida willingly shared their land with Europeans when they came in the 1700s. But the newcomers destroyed their land. The Haida understood that the homelands of all living creatures must be maintained to insure the future of all life. Unlike the European, who seemed to live only for today, the Haida see the past, present, and future as one infinite continuum.

While the Haida situation is different from that of the Mt. Currie and Lytton Bands in the Stein, the issue of aboriginal land title and rights is the same. Should the native people win title to their traditional lands, they will be in a position to protect some of the best wild areas in BC. [Ed. note: Meares Island off the coast of southern BC, and the Stikine watershed in northern BC are also areas in which natives and environmentalists are now confronted by developers. See Brigid, Lughnasadh, and Mabon Editions, 1985.] Native people believe that along with title and rights come responsibilities.

What is the land claims issue and why is it unique to BC? When the British originally colonized Canada east of the Rocky Mountains, they honored Indian ownership of the land. Prior to any white settlement, the queen negotiated treaties for the purchase of much of that land. In BC some lands on Vancouver Island were purchased. In 1860, however, there was a change in policy. The British decided the BC legislature should foot the bill for the purchase of Indian owned lands. The new legislative policy under Governor James Douglas was to ignore Indian ownership of the land.

Consequently, when European settlers moved into BC they occupied Indian lands. In 1871, the Colony of British Columbia joined Canada. Under the Terms of Union, responsibility for Indians and lands reserved for Indians was given to the federal government. The province was required to make land available for Indian reservations, which it did. But the land allotted to the Indian people was far too small for them to inhabit in their traditional ways. Less than .5% of Lillooet Tribal Territory was designated as reservation. Most of that land was of little practical use. The soil and terrain were poor for farming and often lacked adequate water. Meanwhile, federal government Indian agents quashed equal opportuniuty for natives in the economic mainstream. With the influx of Christian missionaries, traditional religious customs were forbidden. Starvation and diseases such as smallpox and tuberculosis reduced the native population.

The Indian people have protested bitterly since the white man began to take their land. For the first quarter of this century they were politically active. But in 1927 the BC government passed legislation that made it illegal for Indians to raise money for claims purposes. This law stood until 1951.

The present provincial government in BC does not recognize aboriginal title. They maintain that aboriginal title was extinguished before BC joined the Confederation. Because of the Terms of Union, they place the responsibility of settlement in the hands of the federal government. Thus far, the federal government has handled BC land claims in the Supreme Court of Canada. The native people originally had well established territories which were never surrendered to the provincial government. Yet the BC government acts as if they do own the Indian lands.

If the federal government continues to use the courts to settle land claims, it will be costly and time consuming. The BC and the federal governments and the native people must find an expedient method for solving questions of title. More and more cases for aboriginal title are surfacing as the government forges ahead with resource extraction on Indian lands, leaving destruction in its wake.

Due to countless conflicts of interest over land use in BC (specifically, wilderness vs. industrial development), in October, 1985, the BC Minister of Environment appointed an eight person panel to review sixteen wilderness areas in BC plus six park boundary alterations. With only one environmentalist and no native representation on the committee and the large number of areas to be studied before the late February deadline, many doubted the worth of the study. The Wilderness Advisory Committee, as they were called, received written submissions and held public meetings. In Lytton, native people and their supporters made a strong case for protection of the valley for its cultural value. After prayers and a sacred pipe ceremony at the mouth of the Stein, a native medicine man brought the members of the committee a bottle of pure Stein water. Excellent presentations indicated that Stein logging would cost BC taxpayers millions of dollars from government subsidies needed to build the 30 kilometer road and a bridge across the Fraser River; and that the Stein represents a unique spiritual opportunity to the Lillooet and Nl'akapxm people.

On March 3, the Advisory Committee issued their report. They recommended that "a road should not be constructed through the Stein River Canyon without a formal agreement between the Lytton Indian band and the provincial government. Until an agreement can be made, the midvalley should be removed from the Annual Allowable Cut of the Lillooet TSA, and should be zoned and managed by the Minister of Forests as wilderness." They also recommended that the upper and lower Stein be designated Recreation Area. Under the Parks Act, Recreation Areas are not exempt from industrial development, but without an agreement between the government and the Lytton Band to build the road, no logging will take place. The Lytton Band has stated that no development shall take place in the Stein prior to the settlement of the Nl'akapmx Land Claim. Taking a compromise position, the committee tried to please all concerned. The committee recognized that the cultural values outweigh the industrial values. The significance of giving the Lytton Band the key to the fate of the valley cannot be overstressed.

Regarding the Haidas on Lyell Island, however, the committee took a position which favors the logging industry. They recommended continued logging on Lyell with an Ecological Reserve at the Windy Bay-Dodge Point area. This decision changes nothing for the Haida who remain committed to saving their land. Chiefs from the Lytton, Mt. Currie and

Napoleon Kruger presents Stein water to Wilderness Advisory Committee. Photo by Darlene Taylor.

Researching Whales to Death

by Christoph Manes

In the March session of the Scandinavian Parliament in Copenhagen, Iceland's Minister of Fisheries, Halldor Asgrimsson, declared Iceland will go ahead with its plan to kill 320 Fin, 160 Sei, and 320 Minke Whales over the next four years for "research purposes." The decision takes advantage of the fact that the International Whaling Commission (IWC) moratorium on commercial whaling does not apply to scientific research. Using Orwellian logic unworthy of a dignified nation like Iceland, Halldor claimed that "Iceland wants to guarantee the future of whales" — by destroying 400 a year.

Only the Danish representative challenged the planned hunts, calling the research a pretext for financial gain. The rigors of pure science will not require Iceland to throw away the $30 million of whale products the "research" will generate. As Halldor admitted, the research will be costly (almost $1,000,000, some of which will go to whalers, whose thick fingers will be employed to dissect ovaries and assay growth layers in tympanic bullae). Add the fact that, under US pressure, Japan will apparently refuse to buy the felonious whale meat, and it's difficult to understand the Icelandic government's motivation.

The answer is that, just like public lands ranching in the US, whaling in Iceland is operated as welfare for a moribund industry. The dilapidated fleet of four small ships sits rusting in Reykjavik harbor. One company holds a monopoly on whaling, which at peak season employs only 250 people (not including about 50 fishing families in the north who supplement their income with small-scale Minke whaling). But the government has a mad commitment to full employment at any cost, and 250 jobs is a lot by Icelandic standards. Even if the government is stuck with millions of dollars worth of dead whales on its hands, it might still go ahead with this proposal.

Moreover, one of the unstated goals of this research is to accumulate data with which to lobby the IWC to renew whaling after the moratorium ends in 1990. As a slick brochure of the Ministry of Fisheries says: "a decision can then be made based on concrete facts and pragmatic research, whether or not commercial whaling should be continued." The most sinister aspect of this is the Ministry's desire to use the data to make protected species of great whales subject to renewed whaling. The Marine Institute of Iceland, the overseer of this project, states in its "Outline of Programme and Budget" that censuses of Blue and Humpback Whales will be compiled in 1986, after which it will be determined if these species will also be subject to experimental kills (p.12). Believe it or not, the whalers will do the censuses, exactly the people who will profit by killing the last of these leviathans.

There is very little popular support in Iceland to stop whaling. Whaling has unfortunately become a patriotic issue, a way of expressing Icelandic independence, which alas hasn't existed since the time of Erik the Red.

However, the situation is changing. There have been a number of anti-whaling letters to newspapers, a sympathetic article on Greenpeace in the socialist paper, even a small demonstration (in front of the Lutheran Church, no less). Not that Icelanders are becoming Deep Ecologists. They're simply beginning to think it's a bad idea to risk a US boycott of Icelandic fish products for a dying industry (the US imports 80% of Icelandic fish exports). Halldor himself said he "laments the threats of various environmental groups to destroy Iceland's foreign fish market." Let's make him really lament it. Iceland is one of those rare places where a few letters can make a difference. Send a card or letter to: Halldor Asgrimsson, Sjavarutvegsraoherra, Lindargotu 9, 101 Reykjavik, Iceland. Say you won't ever touch an Icelandic scallop again if Iceland doesn't change its decision. Say you own a chain of sea-food restaurants and are shocked and appalled. The Icelandic government hates and fears Greenpeace, and even the perception that it's mounting a boycott may be enough to stop this contemptible project. Mike Roselle, where are you?

Ed. note: Just before presstime, we received the following seemingly good and bad news from Christoph: In a recent session of the Icelandic Parliament, Halldor Asgrimsson announced Iceland now recognizes Blue and Humpback Whales are protected under IWC regulations. Iceland defied IWC protection in the 1950s and hunted Blue Whales for six years. It's not clear how this will affect the experimental kills of these animals outlined in Iceland's research plan. However, the Norwegian government decided in April to allow a harvest of 350 Beaked Whales this year, violating the IWC moratorium. The following article by Christoph describes the Norwegian plans.

Norway Continues Whaling

by Christoph Manes

It's official. The government of Norway announced it would disregard an International Whaling Commission moratorium on whaling and commence hunting on May 26. The Norwegians plan to kill 300 whales in the Berent Sea and 50 off Jan Mayen Island. The Minister of Fisheries, Bjarne Mork Eidem proudly emphasized that "Norway has reduced the hunting quota from 2000 animals last year to 350 in accordance with the findings of marine biologists." This was an unwitting admission of how reckless Norway's whaling policies have been up to just 12 months ago. However, only a complete halt of whaling is in accordance with sound marine biology.

It remains to be seen if the US administration will heed the demand of various senators that the importation of Norwegian salmon be stopped if the hunts proceed. As of this writing, Secretary of Commerce Malcolm Baldridge had come to no decision. It is also possible the US government will invoke a law preventing Norway from fishing in US waters.

Norway seems to have been emboldened by Iceland's earlier decision to kill 480 Fin, Sei and Minke Whales over the next four years for "research" purposes. The Norwegians haven't even bothered to use this pretense, however, and plan to continue commercial whaling.

Write Malcolm Baldridge (Dept. of Commerce, Wash., DC 20230) demanding economic sanctions against Norway. Boycott Norwegian salmon and don't read *Ibsen*. Don't read *Ibsen* even if they do stop whaling.

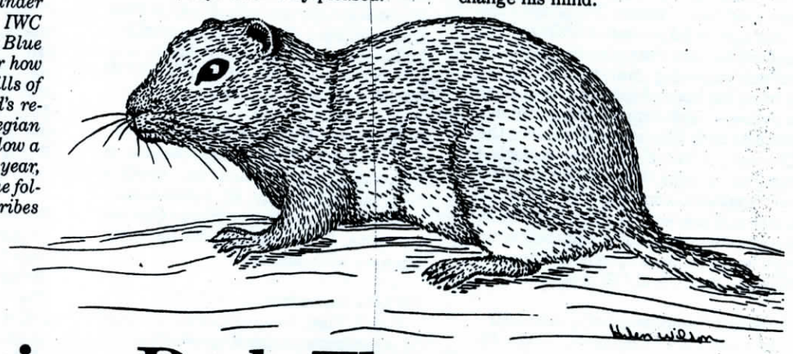
Japan to Buy Icelandic Whale Meat

by Christoph Manes

At the annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) in Malmo, Sweden, Iceland won an unexpected victory in its plan to kill hundreds of whales for research purposes. Two proposals to ban the export of whale products taken on these hunts failed when a special committee of delegates produced compromise regulations which make no mention of international trade. They innocuously state that these whale products should be "primarily" sold in domestic markets. Since profits from exported whale meat are a major unstated motivation for the so-called research, the closing of foreign markets might have halted the hunts. Now the research plan has been given new impetus, and Halldor Asgrimsson, Iceland's minister of fisheries, member of the special committee, and smug technocrat, says he's "very pleased."

Japan is the likely purchaser of Icelandic whale meat. The Japanese government wants the sale to proceed, but up to now has made only confusing, non-committal remarks about the matter, as it assesses how the US government will react. Kristjan Loftsson, executive director of the appropriately-named Icelandic whaling monopoly, Whales Limited, said his sources inform him the Japanese will buy.

The best way to stop this farcical research is to write US Secretary of Commerce Malcolm Baldridge (Commerce Dept., Wash., DC 20230), and to President Reagan (White House, DC 20500) asking them to invoke sanctions against Iceland and Japan if the hunts and sale proceed. Also send a postcard to Halldor Asgrimsson, Sjavarutvegsradneytid, Lindargata 9, Reykjavik, Iceland. Even a couple of hundred cards threatening to boycott Icelandic fish products may give Halldor a bleeding ulcer and change his mind.



the Lillooet Bands recently met with the chief of the Haida Nation in a rally in Vancouver where together they spoke in solidarity for rights to their traditional lands. Bonds between native nations are strengthening.

Native land claims could play a significant role in BC wilderness preservation. If the provincial government continues to ignore native land claims, they will provoke further confrontations.

The Haida cannot flee their island homeland. The Nl'akapmx and Lillooet tribal nations will not survive if they give up cultural lands in the Stein Valley. As Ruby Dunstan, chief of the Lytton Band says, "We do not want to be put in museums. Our culture is alive today and we intend to keep it that way!"

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Support the native people's land claims in BC. Write today and ask the federal and provincial governments to preserve all remaining native heritage sites, honor native land claims, and preserve the Stein and other wilderness areas in BC. Write: The Honorable David Crombe, Minister of Indian Affairs, Ottawa, Canada, K1A OH4; and the Premier, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, BC V8V 1X4 Canada.

On Labour Day Weekend, Aug. 30 - Sep. 1, there will be a second Voices For The Wilderness Festival at the mouth of the Stein in Lytton. Please come! For info contact: John McCandless, Stein Coordinator, Lytton and Mt. Currie Bands, PO Box 1420, Lillooet, BC VOK IVO (604-256-7249). Contributions welcome.

Barbara Quackenbos is an ecologist living in Lillooet, BC.

Malaysian Park Threatened

by Sahabat Alam Malaysia
(Friends of the Earth Malaysia)

There are plans to build a road into the heart of Taman Negara, Peninsular Malaysia's only National Park. The road will run from National Park Headquarters in Kuala Tahan to Kuala Teku at the foot of Gunung Tahan. This will be the first access road ever built in Taman Negara. The area has remained virgin territory since it was created in 1939, "in perpetuity for the propogation, protection and preservation of the indigenous flora and fauna." The Park sprawls along boundaries of the states of Kelantan, Trengganu and Pahang, covering 4343 square kilometres. SAM opposes the building of the road and regrets that the government has not made any announcement regarding the project.

The road is being built with the aim of enhancing the tourist attracting potential of Taman Negara. It is unfortunate that the qualities that make Taman Negara such an important, rich heritage also make it a valuable recreational site.

About 10% of Taman Negara is lowland valleys with gentle slopes. The oldest (100 million years), densest and tallest tropical rainforest in the world constitutes part of the National Park; and tigers, elephants and countless smaller and less glamorous species rely on the lowland forest as their principal habitat. Plant life is richest in the lowlands. More than 200 different tree species may occur on a single hectare!

As part of its plans to enhance the area as a tourist resort, it is even more alarming to know that an airstrip is to be built near Kuala Tahan. This is to be done in time for the PATA (Pacific Area Travel Association) conference, of which Malaysia is host. The airstrip would enable PATA delegates to fly to Park headquarters and view the government's plans in enhancing the area as a tourist resort.

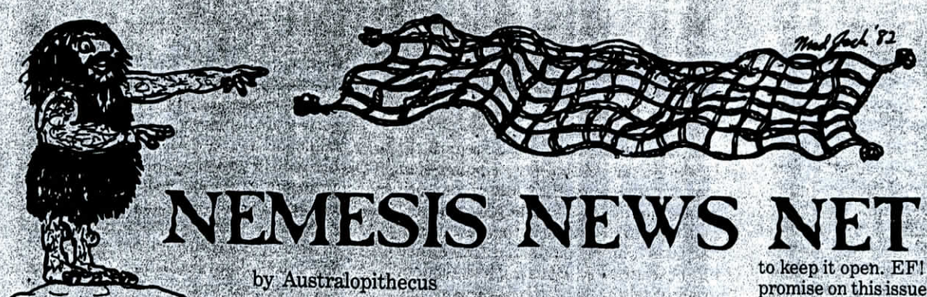
The road is to be constructed by army engineers. Army personnel were in Taman Negara in December conducting a preliminary survey.

Animals such as leaf monkeys and barking deer will be driven from the area. The road will permanently impair the sense of isolation which is the prime attraction of National Parks to visitors.

But the most serious impact of the road will be on Sungai Tahan, the river so popular with Park visitors. The virgin catchment of the Tahan will be defiled and run-off from the soil disturbance during road construction, and later from the laterite surface and eroding earth embankments of the road, will cloud the Tahan's clear waters.

The road from Kuala Tahan to Kuala Teku will be at least 30 kms long and is sure to cost several million ringgit. The energy and finance to be used in the building of the road should instead be directed toward enhancing the attractiveness of Taman Negara. This will cost far less than building the road. Some of the improvements that can be made are: 1. Trail construction and maintenance could be improved. 2. Accomodation and sanitation could be improved. 3. A self guiding educational trail could be set up. 4. Tree towers for bird watching and tree top walkways for upper forest canopy observation could be constructed. 5. An interpretive centre, museum and library could be set up at Kuala Tahan.

This article was condensed from a news alert sent out by Sahabat Alam Malaysia, 37, Lorong Birch, Penang, Malaysia. For information on how to help stop the road, write to SAM. To subscribe to SAM's excellent journal ***Saura Sam****, send $23 (air mail) or $7 (sea mail) to SAM.*



NEMESIS NEWS NET

by Australopithecus

Ivory-bill Lives!

The Ivory-billed Woodpecker has been pronounced extinct by many ornithologists. It has not been officially seen in its habitat of the southeastern US for over 30 years (though an expert ecologist EF! friend told us that he's sure he saw one once in Texas several years ago). So it brings us great glee to learn that Cuban biologists have spotted Ivory-billed Woodpeckers — with slightly different coloring than the US variety — in Guantanamo Province in the rugged forests of northeastern Cuba. After a recent sighting by Dr. Lester Short of the American Museum of Natural History, the Cuban government banned logging in the area, where many of the old pines in which Ivory-bills find their food — beetle larvae — have already been cut. Ivory-bills can live up to 30 years, yet the species' survival hopes are slim. A population of less than 500 is not viable, with most species, but some ornithologists hope to reintroduce Ivory-bills to the US within a couple decades. Dream back the Bison; sing back the Ivory-bill!

Anti-Nuke Protesters Riot

In Wackersdorf, West Germany — a rural Bavarian town near Czechoslovakia —recent protests against West Germany's first nuclear reprocessing facility (under construction) have grown violent. In May, 1000 protesters cut fence surrounding the facility, and hurled cocktails (Molotov brand), stones, and steel balls at police; 132 of the 2000 riot police were hurt. Activists say that the police provoked the violence. These riots followed a peaceful protest of 3000 environmentalists. Activists also barricaded a railway, stopping two freight trains. Europe has been alive with anti-nuclear activities — including several aggressive protests such this one — ever since the Chernobyl disaster. European ecologists continue to make US environmentalists look apathetic and tame. Even the insolent and indolent French have taken to the streets to complain about their country's heavy reliance upon nuclear power. Whither the radical US protesters?

Cousteau Compliments Cuba's Castro

Jacques-Yves Cousteau, currently conducting a five year study of how the quality of waters influences the quality of life of peoples living on those waters (a study uniting ecology and sociology), recently visited Haiti and Cuba. Cousteau described Haiti as "beyond salvation" due to overpopulation and desertification of over half the country resulting from felling forests for firewood. However, Cousteau found Cuba exhibiting good management of its waters. Cousteau said Cuba "is the only place in the Caribbean where marine life abounds." After interviews with Cuban president Fidel Castro, Cousteau concluded that Castro is "a man impassioned by ecology."

KM Will Fertilize With Rad Waste

Nuke-pukes continue to develop innovative plans to deal with radioactive waste. While we are already consuming foods irradiated with nuclear wastes, the latest scheme is even more shocking. Native Americans for a Clean Environment (NACE, Rt.2, Box 51-B, Vian, OK 74962) reports in their June newsletter that Kerr-McGee, at their Gore nuclear powerplant in Oklahoma (the same facility which recently had a major uranium spill resulting in one immediate death), plans to spray farmland with treated nuclear waste (raffinate). In 1982, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission gave KM a permit to test raffinate on KM property as a fertilizer, despite the fact that this waste is radioactive and contains 18 heavy metals. Already KM has purchased thousands of acres of farmland in Sequoyah, Haskell, and Muskogee Counties (at an 80% tax write-off) to spray with raffinate. (But KM, wouldn't it be easier to let farmers keep their land and dispose of the waste by marketing Raffinate Soda instead?) For more info and to obtain petitions to stop this fiasco, write to NACE.

NPS Will Have Us Hike Amidst Rad Waste

Elsewhere on the nuclear front . . . the National Park Service will open a new stretch of the Appalachian Trail near Poughkeepsie, New York, this summer, which will pass within 1200 feet of the site of a former nuclear fuel testing plant which was closed by the NRC in 1975 after its explosion sprayed the area with plutonium dust. This site — a 1000 acre tract and a pond called "Nuclear Lake" — was purchased by the NPS in 1979 for one million dollars despite its contamination by plutonium. This is the first time that the NPS has bought a contaminated plutonium facility (once owned by United Nuclear Corporation — UNC, the same company that had the tailings spill near Gallup, New Mexico, on July 16, 1978) to turn it into a recreational facility. The NPS used tax dollars to bail out a nuclear company that had to abandon the site due to accidents which contaminated the area. Members of the Harlem Valley Alliance, a regional public interest group, have fought this scam by publicizing UNC documents that reveal details of the 1972 accident and show that the artificial lake was used as a repository for radioactive effluents for over a decade. The NPS plans to open the trail this summer despite much local protest. For info on how to fight NPS plans to make nuclear waste a component of recreation (now that it's used for food preservation, building materials, and fertilizers, why not recreation too?!), write: HVA, POB 920, Wingdale, NY 12594.

NPS Buries Marmots Alive

In early July, the Park Service in Yellowstone Park sealed unto death a 100-year old colony of Yellow-bellied Marmots at the Canyon Horse Concession site. They covered the marmots' burrows with asphalt.

EF! Compromises on ORVs?

Earth First! has reluctantly decided to take a more moderate position on off-road vehicles (ORVs, including Jeeps, "all-terrain vehicles," and motor dirt bikes). Whereas previously we advocated an immediate halt to all ORV use in all undeveloped areas (we still favor an eventual ban on the production and maintenance of ORVs), we are now willing to concede to off-roaders a large area for their accursed "sport." We are willing to allow them portions of existing trails in California's Clear Creek Management Area. This area, managed by the BLM, encompasses 43,000 acres of mountains covered with chaparral and pines . . . and asbestos dust. The area we would grant to ORV users (temporarily) is underlain by a vast outcropping of asbestos-laden rock 14 miles long, 4 miles wide, and up to 15,000 feet deep. Airborne dust in the off-roaders' favorite part of the Clear Creek Management Area contains 90% asbestos. No other part of the US (except perhaps industrial factories and areas contaminated by factories, and Forest Service roads in Klamath, Six Rivers, Shasta-Trinity, and Mendocino National Forests where the Forest Service cleverly used rock from asbestos-laden deposits to surface 300 miles of roads) is known to have such high concentrations of this carcinogenic substance. The BLM sought to close Clear Creek to ORV use; but off-roaders, with considerable wailing and gnashing of teeth, convinced them to keep it open. EF! can support a compromise on this issue, under which ORV users would forgo use of all other areas but retain their right to cruise through these clouds of asbestos.

Sasquatch Mystery Unveiled!

A Washington State University anthropology professor, Grover Krantz, who has spent years in quest of the Bigfoot (Sasquatch) says the way to prove the existence of Sasquatch is to shoot one. Grover says the Sasquatch may be a surviving form of Gigantopethicus — skulls of which have been found in China, from one million years ago, and India, from four to five million years ago. People in northern California, Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia have reported over 1000 Sasquatch sightings and numerous sightings of its tracks. Grover is convinced that Bigfoot does exist but thinks that many reports of sightings are in error. It is these erroneous yet sincere sighting reports for which we have finally solved the mystery. The solution is so obvious it's frightening: Pseudo-Sasquatch is Nagasaki Johnson. What else answers to the name 'Gigantopethicus' (see his article p. 11 Brigid 86); has lived in the Pacific Northwest; lopes through the woods on snowshoe-sized feet; and is furry, intelligent, and elusive. Nobody but Nagasaki! As to whether a real Sasquatch also exists, we remain contentedly agnostic (and oppose all plans which would harm any Sasquatch); but at least one-half the Bigfoot mystery is solved. Let it trouble humanity no more!

Thai Activists Incinerate Plant

Environmental protesters burned down a $45 million chemical plant and damaged a resort hotel on Phuket Island in Thailand. The plant was to produce tantalum — a metal used in high-tech electronics equipment — with grievous costs to the environment. Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda declared a state of emergency in response to the 50,000 protesters and the acts of ecotage. Not only was this burning a victory for Thai ecology, it was also a victory against destructive World Bank projects, as the plant was partly funded by the World Bank's investment affiliate, the International Finance Corp.

Weyerhaeuser Equipment Damaged

Weyerhaeuser may close timber lands near Raymond, Washington, as a result of damage to a tractor and a log skidder. The two machines were pushed over a hill, in early July, by an activist operating another tractor. Industrial Woodworkers of America — one of the two unions striking against Weyerhaeuser in Washington and Oregon — denied involvement in the sabotage.

Are Sea Mammals Rebelling?

Since the infamous annual slaughter of thousands of Harp Seals on the East Coast of Canada ended (due to the European Economic Community's ban on importation of seal pelts), Canadians have blamed seals for destroying fishing nets, consuming fish catches, and stealing bait from lobster traps. In short, it seems that if fisher-men's reports are true, seals have become hunt saboteurs. Canadian fishermen and sealers plan to quell the rebellion by renewing the clubbing of seals and establishing a seal pelt marketing co-op. The sealers' co-op will seek markets within Canada for the thousands of seal pelts they plan to take. So determined are some east Canadians to see seals slain again that they have fabricated tales of seals eating more fish (15 pounds per seal per day) than are harvested by Nova Scotia fishermen, and have requested that the government place a bounty on seals.

Meanwhile, fishermen in Prince William Sound in the northern Gulf of Alaska shot and used explosives to "scare" away a pod of 35 Orcas ("killer" whales) that had ingeniously learned to raid the fishermen's traplines. The Orcas removed Halibut and Black Cod from the longlines (mile-long lines with baited hooks). The 35 Orcas disappeared after several suffered bullet wounds. (It is not known whether their eco-theft was in protest of overfishing.) Alaska's 700 plus commercial fishermen have exemptions from the Marine Mammal Protection Act permitting them to kill "small cetaceans" interfering with their catches. Though Orcas reach 30 feet in length, the National Marine Fisheries Service considers them "small cetaceans" so they may be killed. Readers should complain to Secretary Malcolm Baldridge, Dept. of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Ave. NW, Wash., DC 20230; request an emergency closure on shooting and harassment of Orcas, and an end to fishermen's exemptions to kill "small cetaceans."

If They're Not Rebelling, They Ought To Be

Each year millions of air breathing sea animals — including seals, sea turtles, porpoises, Sea Otters, and Puffins and other marine birds — become entangled in active and discarded plastic fishing nets and other trash, and drown. Among the most destructive of the millions of tons of debris littering the oceans are six-pack plastic rings, and drift nets (gill nets of over one mile in length are called "drift nets") used by the Japanese and other modern fisher-peoples throughout the world, particularly off the coast of Alaska. The following information on entanglement is quoted from the Center for Environmental Education — CEE (parent group of the Whale, Seal, and Sea Turtle Rescue Funds), 624 9th St. NW, Wash., DC 20001).

Last year nearly 150,000 miles of these drift nets were set by the Japanese salmon fleet . . . . It is estimated that the Japanese salmon fishery is responsible for trapping and drowning 763,000 birds each year. . . . Japan, Taiwan and Korea have high-seas squid fisheries with over 700 boats. Each boat's net is twice as long as the salmon nets, and the squid fishing lasts 7 months — more than three times as long as the salmon fishing. . . . In an effort to stop entanglement of marine animals, CEE is working to make the US Government enforce laws protecting these species. Additional monitoring of foreign fishing fleets is necessary to document the loss of our wildlife so these laws can be used to force the Japanese, Tawainese and Koreans to stop the slaughter . . . . An estimated 50,000 northern fur seals are drowned each year in discarded fishing nets. . . . Entanglement is also a major cause of death for thousands of endangered sea turtles. The air-breathing turtles are accidently trapped in the nets of shrimp fishermen and usually drown. The problem extends from the US to South America, to Asia . . . . The Gulf of California harbor porpoise is the smallest and most endangered marine mammal in the world. This species, too, has been seriously depleted due to drowning in fishing nets.

You can help by writing your Congresspersons asking that they work for environmental legislation, and seek restrictions on foreign fishing fleets in US waters, to end the menace of entanglement. Even more importantly, scour coastal beaches and waters of trash, especially non-biodegradable trash in which animals may become entangled.

Letters

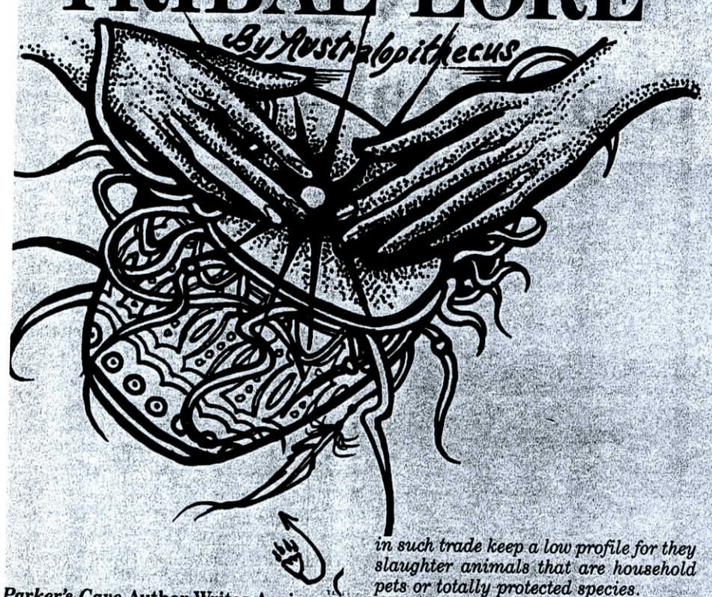
Senators' addresses are: US Senate, Washington, DC 20510. Representatives' addresses are: US House of Representatives, Wash., DC 20515.

*Write to your congresspersons and Representative Jim Olin and Senator John Warner in opposition to Coors Shenondoah Valley brewery. (See NNN in Beltane 86 issue, and R.F. Mueller's article in Litha 84.)

*The need for letters on behalf of Sweedens Swamp (see NNN in Beltane 86 issue) has apparently ended. The EPA, going against the Army Corpse of Engineers, stopped a plan to build a mall in the 32 acre forested wetland in Attleboro, Massachusetts.

*Write two letters to Alaska's Governor Bill Sheffield (Office of the Governor, Juneau, AK 99811). First, tell him to ban all killing of Wolves in Alaska, and tell him you'll boycott Alaska tourism until Alaska ends it Wolf eradication efforts. Second, tell Sheffield to reverse his decision to allow offshore oil and gas drilling in Alaskan waters. This drilling will harm Bowhead Whales, a species numbering only 4000 in the western

TRIBAL LORE



Parker's Cave Author Writes Again

Samisdat has published a book by Everett Whealdon — whose previous book *Parker's Cave* has attained fame among EF!ers — entitled *The Green Chain and other stories of The Great Depression.* "The Green Chain" and Whealdon's other stories will surely please readers who appreciate the languishing art of storytelling and in particular the art of telling stories with a strong connection to the land. To obtain this fine little book send $5 to Everett Whealdon, 314 Logan St., Port Townsend, WA 98368.

CAP Lawsuit Needs Money

Recently, Judge Strand dismissed a lawsuit by environmental groups challenging the final EIS on the Tucson Aquaduct — a portion of the Central Arizona Project. In order for the groups to appeal this detestable decision, and to at least lessen the damage done by the CAP to the Sonoran desert, donations are needed. If you'd like to contribute to the fight against CAP destruction, send checks to Animal Defense Council, c/o Jacoby & Meyers, 369 W Valencia Rd, Tucson, AZ 85706. Write to the same address for more info.

The Rich Devour Wildlife

Sahabat Alam Malaysia (Friends of the Earth Malaysia, or SAM — 37, Lorong Birch, 10250 Penang, Malaysia) recently sent out an alert regarding the killing of Malaysian wildlife for gourmet foods. The following is a reprint of parts of their alert. While SAM's article deals specifically with exotic meat consumption in Malaysia, this problem also threatens species throughout much of Asia and Africa, where rare animals are killed to feed the warped appetites of rich consumers in the US, Japan, Europe and the African and Asian nations themselves.

The tiger population [in Malaysia] *is estimated at less than 500. There are only 2000-3000 orangutans left in Sabah and about 400 to 700 in Sarawak. The elephant population is 700-900. In the Endau Rompin National Park in Peninsular Malaysia the Sumatran rhino numbers about 15. Other endangered species in Malaysia are the proboscis monkey, Asiatic wild dog, banteng, clouded leopard, Bornean tarsier and tapir. Birds on the endangered list are the Chinese egret, Crested Argus, Green Peafowl, Chinese Crested Tern and Helmeted Hornbill. Endangered reptiles and amphibians include the loggerhead turtle, green turtle, leathery turtle, estuarine crocodile and python.*

The exotic food trade is a thriving business providing a steady income to poachers and traders, restaurant and eating stall owners. Recent investigations by SAM revealed that monkey's meat and brain, the meat of iguand, squirrel, deer, anteater, python, cobra, tortoises and turtles are very much in demand by exotic food lovers.

What is being eaten is the country's wildlife [species], *many of which are endangered and protected under the Wildlife Act of 1972. Many of these protected species are available from pet shops, which are said to keep the animals discreetly or off premises, and are supplied only to trusted restaurants and food stalls . . . . The people involved in such trade keep a low profile for they slaughter animals that are household pets or totally protected species.*

The methods in which the animals are slaughtered are cruel and crude. Pangolins, a totally protected species in danger of extinction, are killed for their flesh and scales. Even their young are not spared. They are killed by throwing them alive into vats of boiling water.

The practice of eating monkey brains is still going on. Feasting on this delicacy requires special implements. A specially designed table with a wooden box at the bottom is used . . . . A metal bowl at one end of the pivoted metal arm fixed to the table is fitted directly onto the monkey's head and latched into place leaving the portion above the ears exposed. A sharp scalper is used to cut round the skull vault. By then the pulpitating brain is exposed and brandy is poured into the exposed area of the brain. A spoon is used to scoop up the brain matter, or a straw is used. Meanwhile, tears can be seen flowing down the monkey's eyes as its body convulses. The monkey is then disposed of. Only well known clients are allowed to join in the eating session.

In view of the above SAM urges the Minister of Science, Technology and Environment; the Veterinary Division under the Ministry of Agriculture; and the Department of Wildlife to take measures against the sale of exotic meats of protected and endangered species.

An Animal Protection Council comprised of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Wildlife Department, Veterinary [Division] *and the Police should be established for full cooperation over better law enforcement.*

Regular and stringent checks on pet shops and eating stalls must be carried out to check into the illegal trade and poaching activities.

A National Policy on wildlife and conservation should be implemented; the tightening of loopholes will ensure an effective management of our wildlife. Support from members of the public is necessary to report cases of sales of exotic meats of protected animals.

An education awareness programme in schools and to the public on the importance of our country's wildlife heritage should be initiated.

You can help stop the consumption of exotic meats by complaining to the following: Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad (no joke!), Prime Minister of Malaysia, Prime Minister's Office, 50502 KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA; and Encik Mohamad Khan Bin Momin Khan, Director-General, Department of Wildlife and National Parks, 50664 KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA.

Australian Group Suggests Wilderness Assessment Guidelines

Wilderness International suggests the following guidelines be followed for identifying wilderness in regions inhabited, either permanently or seasonally, by technologically "primitive" people:

For the purpose of identifying primitive country, thresholds must be set for each of the following variables: population density, size and permanence of settlements, degree of technological sophistication of the inhabitants, and degree of environmental impact caused by inhabitant activities. Thresholds for these variables will be a function of the climate and the geographical nature of the region. In any region, different thresholds may be set when specifying different degrees of primitiveness. It is suggested that disturbances of technologically primitive people (e.g. livestock grazing and wood collection) be classified as minor intrusions, provided that the disturbances in question have minimal environmental impact or are constant factors in a stable ecosystem. An assessment of the relative stability of an ecosystem should take into account biomass, soils, forest canopy, forest undergrowth, species-richness/diversity and populations of rare or introduced species. Assessments of ecological stability, population density etc. will in be based on a combination of field studies and aerial or satellite photography.

Wilderness International (a recent offshoot of Australia's Wilderness Society) is currently producing a case study of the problems of identifying wilderness and assessing ecological stability in an inhabited semi-tropical mountain region. To obtain a copy of this report, or to make inquiries or comments, write: Coordinator, Wilderness International, 130 Davey St., Hobart 7000, AUSTRALIA.

More Good Periodicals

The Trumpeter: Voices from the Canadian Ecophilosophy Net Work — an excellent Deep Ecology quarterly available for $8 a year in Canada, $10 foreign airmail (US $); make checks to LightStar (publisher); send to LightStar, 1138 Richardson St., Victoria, BC, V8V 3C8 Canada. The superb spring 86 issue on wilderness included articles by leading Deep Ecologists Gary Snyder, Ed Grumbine, Bill Devall, Dave Foreman and others.

Forest — A new journal, discussing threatened forests throughout the world, which emerged from a rainforest caucus during the 1985 European Green conference in Dover, England (the first European Green caucus at which Earth First! was represented). To subscribe, send as much as you can afford to FOREST, 15 Tadmore St., London W.12 England.

Converging Paths — Focuses on the Traditional ways of Wicca, its roots and current directions. Premier issue will be available Fall Equinox 86 for a discounted price of $3. Published four times a year — $13. Articles and issues, rituals, poetry, artwork, sidelights on other magickal paths, etc. Write Converging Paths, POB 63, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572.

The Rowan Exchange — A pagan letter exchange, confidential contacts forwarding service. Magazine consists of listings of pagans who want contacts with other pagans; $9/yr. Write: The Rowan Exchange, POB 63, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572.

NNN (cont)

Arctic Ocean.

*Write your US representatives and senators and ask them to support the Humane Product Testing Act (HR 1877). Express your hope that they will do all they can to stop vivisection.

*On June 3, HR 2957 and HR 2958 — bills to help stop rainforest destruction — passed the House. Now the Senate must pass the Senate equivalents. Ask your US senators, and Senators Richard Lugar and Daniel Evans, to support S 1747 and S 1748, and to do their utmost to end our country's subsidization of rainforest destruction.

*The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) recently promised to finance the paving of the Porto Velho - Rio Branco extension of the Transamazonia Highway, which is part of the infamous Polonoroeste project. We must shower the presidents of Brazil and the IDB with letters of protest to this funding and this project. Write: Antonio Ortiz Mena, President, International Development Bank, 808 17th St, NW, Wash., DC 20577; and Presidente Jose Sarney, Palacio do Planalto, Brasilia, D.F., 70.000 BRAZIL.

*Call or write President Reagan telling him to levy economic sanctions against Norway, Iceland and Japan for continuing to whale: The White House, DC 20500 or 202-456-7639.

*Because Reagan's proposed 1987 budget eliminates enforcement funds for the Animal Welfare Act (AWA), it is morally incumbent upon Congress to restore money to the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for AWA enforcement. To this end, write your congresspersons, and Representative Jamie Whitten and Senator Thad Cochran (chairs, House and Senate Sub-committees on Agriculture) asking that they restore funds for enforcement of the AWA. Also ask that they support HR 4535, to amend the AWA to allow private lawsuits on behalf of any animal protected by the AWA.

*While you're writing to congresspersons about animals, also ask them to support HR 2952 to reduce US imports of kangaroo products from Australia. Ask senators to oppose ratification of the treaty of the US, USSR, Japan and Canada (Interim Convention on Conservation of North Pacific Fur Seals) which promotes commercial killing of seals. Tell representatives and senators to strengthen and support HR 1027 and S 725 to renew a strong Endangered Species Act.

*Texas agriculture officials intend to begin killing Coyotes with Compound 1080. Write to Governor Mark White (State Capitol Building, Austin, TX 78711) and Jim Hightower (Commissioner, Texas Dept. of Agriculture, POB 12847, Austin, TX 78711) telling them that you will avoid Texas and its products like the plague unless they stop all use of 1080 and all killing of Coyotes.

*Tell your congresspersons that the Price-Anderson Act, which sets a limit of only $640,000 compensation from the nuclear industry in the event of a major accident, is a farce as a means of protecting Americans from nuke plant disasters. Tell them to oppose any limits on nuclear industry liability and to support amendments which would require responsible companies to pay for damages. Tell them that the Stafford (Senate) and Metzenbaum (House) bills are far better than the weaker alternatives offered by McClure and Udall.

*Write Senator Wilson (R-CA) in support of protection under the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act for all eligible portions of the North and South Forks of the Kern River. Write Senator Wallop asking for immediate hearings on Kern legislation.

*Send letters to the BLM in support of the Earth First! Utah wilderness proposal, *immediately.* It may help to mention areas you particularly want saved — perhaps, Parunaweap Canyon, the Paria-Hackberry area, Dark Canyon Plateau, etc. — but stress that you want all undeveloped lands in Utah protected forever as Wilderness. Send to: Wilderness Studies, BLM, 324 S State St, SLC, UT 84111.

*Write three letters on behalf of Colorado's Holy Cross Wilderness. Demand that the Homesake II project — which would involve drilling tunnels through and diverting water from this Wilderness — be abandoned. Send to: Richard Gustafson, Donald Welch, and Jack Loughran, Board of County Commissioners, POB 850, Eagle, CO 81630.

*Send comments, by September 12, in opposition to granting a permit to Energy Fuels Nuclear to discharge pollutants at its proposed Canyon Uranium Mine. EFN needs a permit from the EPA before it can legally befoul waters from its proposed site 13 miles south of the Grand Canyon.

Yellowstone Rivers Threatened

Yellowstone National Park's rivers have long been off-limit to boats for good reasons: Motorized boats, of course, harm the environment with their noise and water and air pollution; but even non-motorized boats would lead to damage of the Yellowstone ecosystem. Opening Yellowstone's rivers to boats would lead to more people and more trash in Yellowstone backcountry. It would enable people to reach areas where sensitive species, such as various water birds, gather. Indeed, park rangers have noted the much greater number of creatures of sensitive species along untraveled waters compared to heavily traveled waters. Unfortunately, Chief Ranger Dan Sholly and the Park Service are considering opening park rivers to boating, even though Sholly admits that boating could harm three Endangered or Threatened species: Grizzly Bears, Bald Eagles, and Peregrine Falcons. To urge the Park Service to maintain the ban on boating and to ask to be placed on the mailing list to receive the draft River Management Plan, write two letters: to Dan Sholly and to Superintendent Robert Barbee, National Park Service, POB 168, Yellowstone Park, WY 82190. Letters from us are crucial; boating enthusiasts, including rafters whom we might assume to be environmentalists, are pressuring the NPS to end the river protection.

THE OWYHEE MOUNTAINS

Range Abuse and its Ecological Effects

by George Wuerthner

In the extreme southwest corner of Idaho, bordering Nevada and Oregon, is Owyhee County — the most remote and unpopulated (.75 person per square mile) area of a state few would call crowded. At five million acres, Owyhee County is the second largest in Idaho, and larger than its namesake — the Hawaiian Islands.

Although a few of the Owyhee summits reach 7-8000 feet in elevation, most of the terrain is rolling with little relief, much of it is a gently tilting plateau slashed by deep rivers such as the Owyhee, Big and Little Jack's Creek, Battle Creek and others. Trees are few and mostly limited to juniper, with a smattering of Aspen, Douglas Fir, and Subalpine Fir. Owyhee country is mostly rangeland — grasses and shrubs.

The name 'Owyhee' was the original spelling for the residents of the Hawaiian Islands and in 1818 several of these islanders who had been employed as sailors jumped ship in Oregon and signed on as trappers with Donald MacKenzie of the Northwest Fur Company. Three of these Owyhees, as they were called, left MacKenzie's party to trap the mountains southwest of Boise and never returned. MacKenzie named the mountains after them.

Range cattle were brought to the Owyhees beginning in the 1870s. At one time more cattle and sheep were shipped from Murphy on the north edge of the Owyhees than from any other point in the US. As many as 100,000 longhorns roamed the open range. An early historian writing about the region in 1884 reports, "The summer range for cattle is almost inexhaustible, every hillside furnishing a luxuriant growth of bunch grass."

Unfortunately, the grasses were exhaustible. Today in the Owyhee Mountains, the rank growth of Bluebunch Wheatgrass described by early settlers is merely a memory. One can find the grass surviving in cracks between rocks, beneath clumps of sagebrush, clinging to the sides of cliffs; any place a cow can't reach.

Bluebunch Wheatgrass is a common palouse-prairie grass which grows in one to two foot high clumps on arid lands throughout Idaho, western Montana, eastern Oregon, eastern Washington and north all the way to Alaska (where I have found it growing on dry slopes along the Yukon River.) It is a perennial (individual plants live 50-100 years) cool-season grass, which means it does most of its growth in the spring when soil moisture is high and temperatures are warm. With the onset of the hot, dry summers typical of its geographical distribution the plant transfers most of its carbohydrate reserves from the growing above-ground parts to storage in its roots, and ceases growth. If the autumn is unusually wet, Bluebunch will break dormancy and grow again until early winter.

While moderate grazing of Bluebunch after it has set seed and begun its dormant period will have little impact on the plant's survival, heavy cropping during the growing season can seriously impede the deposition of the plant's carbohydrate reserves — its form of stored food necessary for renewing new growth the following spring. This reduces the growth of its root system, making it more susceptible to drought, and hampering its seed production.

Bluebunch grows primarily at low elevations — where big game species like Elk and Bighorn Sheep winter, but seldom summer. Unlike livestock constrained by fences, Elk, and to a lesser extent Bighorns, migrate to higher elevations and scatter widely for summer grazing, giving Bluebunch a reprieve from intense grazing during its critical spring and early summer growth months. In many places wildlife grazes Bluebunch primarily in the late fall and winter after the plant has entered winter dormancy and little damage can be done to the plant's health.

Bluebunch grasslands burned frequently. Wild fires usually occurred in the late summer, again after the grass entered dormancy and transferred carbohydrate reserves to its roots where fires could do little damage. So long as the roots were not destroyed, the plant simply grew new leaves the following spring and was none the worse for the fire.

Cattle in the Owyhee. Photos by George Wuerthner.

Although grazing did occur on Bluebunch ranges, the plant evolved (like most Intermountain range species) without pressure from large herd animals like Bison, whose geographical distribution was further east. Even Elk and Bighorns were rare in or absent from much of the plant's natural habitat, hence the grass never had to cope with repeated, heavy cropping. In essence, Bluebunch Wheatgrass is like an animal which evolved without serious predators; and like the introduction of a new predator into the ecosystem, the introduction of domestic livestock (a predator) on Bluebunch (the prey) ranges has had disastrous results. Failure to consider the evolutionary history and influences upon range plants when designing grazing systems is one reason the American rangelands are in such poor condition. Instead of first trying to understand what environmental and evolutionary pressures influenced the land, then designing a range management program to emulate these processes, the rancher and his lackey, the old style range manager, put the livestock on the land, then tried to mitigate the worst abuses.

In the Owyhee country Bison and Elk were rare, but Pronghorn Antelope and Bighorn Sheep were once very abundant; Bighorns were more numerous than deer. By the 1920s Bighorns were exterminated by overhunting and competition with domestic livestock. Pronghorns declined to extremely low numbers. On the other hand, deer increased after the cattle arrived because the cows ate the grasses, which meant shrubs could outcompete the weakened grasses for available water, light and nutrients. Deer, preferring shrubs to grasses, prospered. But as the grasses continued to disappear, cattle increasingly browsed important deer forage such as Bitterbrush and Mountain Mahogany. Eventually even the deer herds declined.

Land managers frequently use the term 'range condition' to describe the health of a rangeland. Range in poor condition is not necessarily barren of plants. It can be covered with vegetation; for example, in the Owyhee much of the range is now luxuriantly covered with cheatgrass — an invading, non-native annual species. Although perhaps heavily vegetated, poor condition range will have few desirable climax species. Erosion, soil compaction, and the destruction of watersheds can be, but are not necessarily, indicators of poor range condition. Range in excellent condition means desirable plants are abundant and reproducing well.

One reason range deterioration has gone unnoticed for so long is that it's simply not easy to know if an area is being overgrazed. Unlike a clearcut, which shows a dramatic change in vegetation, range decline is slow and incremental. It is the gradual replacement of a more desirable species with a less desirable one that brings about a downward trend in rangelands. To determine range condition one must be able to distinguish between various species of grass (often requiring a microscope to key out), shrubs and herbs and know which, if any are left, indicate good range condition. Range condition usually declines over a period of years and even a rancher who is there year after year may not notice the change until the range has changed from Bluebunch Wheatgrass to sagebrush.

Much of the Owyhees, managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), is overgrazed by livestock such that wildlife loses in the competition for food. For example, a 1977-78 BLM survey indicated that 93% of the Mule Deer range was in poor or fair condition (95% of the Pronghorn range was in a similar condition). According to the BLM report, the range cannot support deer in hard winters and as a consequence many deer starve. Cattle, on the other hand, spend winters at the home ranch being fed supplemental hay, then go back on the ranges the following year, giving the plants no respite.

The impact of domestic livestock on rangelands can be appreciated by comparing the range condition of the previously mentioned deer habitat (which livestock graze heavily) with Bighorn habitat, which because of its steepness and inaccessibility is only lightly touched by cows or domestic sheep. Some 69% of Owyhee Bighorn habitat is in good to excellent range condition and only 5% is in poor condition, even though the grass species, precipitation, and other physical factors on the Bighorn ranges are often identical to those of antelope and deer ranges.

One of the best of the Bighorn ranges lies on the east slope of the Owyhee Mountains on the Jacks Creek Plateau, where a remnant of pristine bunchgrass habitat still exists. The plateau has no permanent water supply and hence has only been lightly grazed. Over 75% of the Idaho BLM rangelands are in fair to poor condition, while only 1.5% of the native rangelands are in excellent condition. Of the 1.5% of healthy grassland, well over 75% is found on the Jacks Creek Plateau. Over 100,000 acres of this plateau are still lush native grasslands.

But even the Jacks Creek Plateau may soon be grazed. Under pressure from local ranchers (with Washington support – BLM Director Robert Burford in particular), the BLM has proposed to build a 26 mile long pipeline to bring water to the plateau and open it to 4000 cattle. As is the case with many range improvements, the construction costs will be borne by all taxpayers, although the benefits accrue to a few individuals. The pipeline will cost over $150,000 to construct. Grazing fees from permittees using the area will bring in $600 a year! Taxpayers will absorb the difference. There is a further cost of this project not addressed in economic analysis. In 1967 the Idaho Fish and Game Department introduced 12 California Bighorns to the Jacks Creek drainage and by 1983 at least 115 Bighorns roamed there. Should cattle be introduced onto the plateau, a nearly pristine Bluebunch Wheatgrass ecosytem may be destroyed; and Bighorns — which feed primarily on grasses — may also disappear as they will compete with cattle for forage and space.

Cattle overgrazing has other consequences for the Owyhee. In this arid land, all life gravitates towards riparian zones. The shrubs and trees provide nesting habitat for birds. Other wildlife species utilize this vegetation for shade, escape cover, and thermal cover from cold winter winds. Additionally, riparian zones contain important plant food for a host of animals. Cattle like riparian zones for the same reasons. Along many streams the impact from trampling, bank collapse, and heavy foraging on riparian plants has reduced ecological diversity. BLM biologists estimate that 36% of the Owyhee riparian/meadow habitat is severely impacted by livestock use. Ninety percent exhibits lower vegetation diversity, limited tree and shrub cover and a high occurrence of undesirable weedy species compared with unimpacted streams! This loss in habitat diversity severely harms wildlife.

For example, Beaver live in all the major streams and rivers of the Owyhee. They were once more numerous, as the journals of early trappers testify; but their primary food species — cottonwood, Aspen and willow — have all but disappeared from these mountains. Today only one cottonwood tree is known to grow in the entire mountain range. It lives in a remote portion of the Deep Creek canyon, a place where neither the early settlers nor their cattle could reach.

Wide open spaces of Owyhee.

Cottonwood sprouts from its roots if the above ground parts of the tree are cut, and thus can easily replace itself if felled by Beaver or even man. But cattle relish young cottonwood shoots and where heavy grazing occurs all the new growth is eaten. (Cottonwood are also disappearing along the Wild and Scenic segment of the Missouri River in Montana because of excessive cattle grazing, and it is also happening elsewhere.)

With cottonwood gone and Beaver in low numbers, River Otter — who depend upon Beaver to construct the bankside burrows they use as dens — also declined. The otter, a fish eater, were also hurt by declines in fish population, which resulted from increased erosion of streambanks caused by trampling, loss of riparian vegetation, and sedimentation from the run-off of overgrazed ranges.

The loss of cottonwood and Aspen hurt many species. These trees provided homes for cavity-nesting birds like flickers, and bluebirds, and nest sites for species like the Red-tailed Hawk.

Over much of the West overgrazing has changed dramatically the character of rivers and streams, including those of the Owyhee. Many smaller creeks were bordered by dense thickets of willows with occasional cottonwood groves. The roots of grasses, shrubs and trees held the banks together and slowed erosion. Streams flowing through ungrazed or lightly grazed areas are typically narrow and deep — excellent fish habitat. Creeks draining heavily grazed areas with denuded banks are shallower and wider.

In the Owhyees overgrazing and the destruction of stream habitat has impacted the Red-banded Trout — a unique sub-species of Rainbow Trout that is specially adapted to high water temperatures. Red-banded Trout may be a genetic relict. Scientists believe that all native trout east of the Cascades may have descended from ancient Red-band stock. If this is true, they may hold the key to future improvements in the genetic diversity of hatchery-reared fish. Most Red-banded Trout survive in tiny canyon streams where grazing is limited by the terrain, and while few ever grow larger than eight inches, they are abundant. Once in Little Jack's Creek, I drove schools of 100 or more of these trout in front of me.

These changes in the land's ecological productivity and natural beauty are not only a concern for nature lovers. Without trees to hold the bank together, increased erosion leads to faster run-off, greater channelization, and more destructive flooding. The loss of Beaver dams, which previously checked water flow, necessitates human construction of large flood control structures. All taxpayers pay for dam construction to rectify a problem created by a few individuals and their animals.

The decrease in range quality is bad for livestock as well as wildlife. Usually the more desirable plant species are higher in nutritional quality than the species which replace them. Thus grazing animals on overgrazed range gain less weight. Also, since overgrazed ranges usually have less plant cover, a grazing animal must roam more widely to find enough forage. This also reduces livestock weight gains, and creates more trails and erosion.

The fact that ranchers still can eke out a living is no indication that all is well. Western ranchers have been mining the land. Authorities estimate the western rangelands are only one-tenth as productive as they were when the first livestock were released on them. Much of the western range is too arid for long term profitable livestock production. You can raise more beef on an acre in humid Vermont than on 100 acres in the Owyhee; Florida produces more beef than all of the western states combined! Much of the land currently grazed could only sustain long term use under drastically reduced livestock numbers. This means large land holdings, frequent pasture rotations with high labor costs, and long rests between each usage. Unfortunately most ranchers faced with rising land costs, lower range productivity, and a decline in meat demand, can little afford to cut back on their herds, expand their land base or make these modifications in their range practices. For many, worrying about the range condition 20 years from now seems unimportant when they are struggling to keep the bank from foreclosing on their operations next month.

However, overgrazing is not unique to the western rancher. Wildlife can and do overgraze ranges, as is evident today in northern parts of Yellowstone Park. Early explorers commented on Bison herds denuding large areas of the plains. Nor is overgrazing a consequence of modern Western culture. When Indians obtained the horse, they seldom let their trusty steeds graze unconstrained, because other tribes stole horses. Horses were herded and confined to small areas, resulting in trampled ranges — at least in the vicinity of their camps.

What is different about western rangelands today is how widespread overgrazing has become. In the past, a denuded range was abandoned as animals moved on to greener pastures. In addition, most wildlife populations fluctuated. Even animals like Bison, that travelers of the western plains described as numbering in the hundreds of thousands, may have occasionally suffered dramatic losses to harsh winter or to local extermination by Indians, Wolves and other predators. This allowed abused rangelands to recover until the next population increase. With years of rest, the range recovered with little or no long term damage.

Unfortunately for the Owyhee, thus far ranchers have not moved their herds elsewhere and range conditions are still declining. In recent years, the Owyhee has attracted the attention of wilderness lovers, and people are beginning to question whether livestock ranching is the best use of public lands. With support from non-ranchers, the BLM has recommended several Wilderness Areas for the Owyhee; but bowing to pressure from local ranchers, almost all proposed areas include only the bottoms and sides of the major river canyons cutting through the plateau, leaving the flatlands above out of BLM recommendations. (For more on the Owyhee Wilderness proposals see the Beltane 84 issue.)

The Owyhees are an isolated and lonely land — a true wilderness — where a person can get lost. The Owyhee is in many ways wilder than much Alaskan wilderness — where airplanes, snowmobiles, and all-terrain vehicles have compromised the integrity of the land. Here you could walk for days and never encounter another person and you don't need a permit to camp, although at the present time it's doubtful you would go for long without seeing a cow.

George Wuerthner is a wild lands ecologist, a professional photographer and freelance writer. He writes regularly for us.

ROMANCING A PLANET

by Michael J. Cohen

As the red morning sunshine brilliantly paints the clouds and mountains, so each day dawns a new light on humanity's relationship with planet Earth. Recently illuminated is that the planet may be a global-sized living organism. If so, what we call imagination, consciousness, sensations and feelings turn out to be vital biological survival mechanisms of that organism and of people too. With this in mind I invite your participation in a guided imagery amalgamating these postulated facets of life. Using your senses and thoughts, the following passages help you survive by broadening your perspective of planet Earth, your life support system.

Although this interpretive presentation is not a spiritual event, begin by taking a few deep breaths to consciously reacquaint yourself with the planet. Note that inspir(it)ation and respir(it)ation are functions of Mother Earth's ancient spirit we call "atmosphere." So savor a few deep breaths to catch the spirit of what follows.

Imagine an apple, its color, taste, smell, texture and sound. Imagine yourself getting smaller and smaller until you can enter the apple through its stem. Work your way into the center of the apple. Once there, slowly allow yourself to expand until you occupy every part of the apple. Think of yourself as part of the consciousness, feelings and essence of the apple. Become part of its nature.

Remain as one with the apple and slowly let the apple enlarge to basketball size. Enlarge with it and keep enlarging it to room size, house size, town, then county size. Slowly you and the apple become bigger until you're larger than the state, the country, the continents and oceans. You become the size of the planet. Try to feel comfortable being the size of the planet.

And now that you are the size of the planet, merge with the planet. Slowly let yourself flow into the life-dance of the planet Earth on its orbit around the sun. Become the planet as you did the apple. Now give yourself permission to learn from your life about the planet's life and vice versa: Let your hands touch each other, and then your face. By sensations like touching and feeling, tasting, smelling and hearing, not by words does the planet know itself and survive.

Press your hands on your temples and feel your heartbeat. The pulsating essence of your life still beats since your birth billions of years ago. Let yourself hear and feel yourself breathing. Your planetary breath circulates air through planets, animals, water and minerals making their lives and your life possible.

Imagine the sun becoming warmer and warmer and you sweating thunderstorms and hurricanes to cool off. Imagine fanning yourself with arctic air or cooling yourself by running an arctic ice water bath. Imagine yourself erecting an umbrella of clouds or carbon dioxide, or sunshine reflectors of daisies, snow or glaciers to reflect off or hold the heat.

Feel hungry and satiate your hunger with sunshine, your major food source. Think about your lips drying. Lick them with rain to make them feel better. Put your arms around yourself. Enjoy being embraced and fondled by the universe and yourself.

Feel relieved that you have organ systems satisfying your need to excrete. Compliment yourself for inventing excretory organs that recycle your excrements into healthy foods and water that you safely eat and drink again. Be proud of that achievement.

Enjoy your sexuality, your planetary desires for life to continue. Enjoy being a fertilized growing egg of the universe.

Imagine an overabundance of saliva in your mouth and swallowing it like the plantet swallows carbon, salt and methane to regulate their levels for life's maintenance.

Imagine desiring harmony within you and knowing how to maintain it by altering yourself continuously. Imagine yourself as the womb of life, feel the excitement as dawns each new moment.

Sense companionship, a sense of place, support and belonging, a sense of being whole and important for life's existence.

Celebrate being something very worthwhile. Rejoice that your survival desires validate all your natural processes; you are never bad, wrong or negative. Feel nurtured and nurturing. Feel musically harmonic like a simple folk song and a symphony.

Enjoy a tremendous sensation of time, motion and power that secures long lasting peace. Feel wonderful that you are conscious to enjoy all these aspects of your survival. Be happy you are them. Delight in their consciousness of you, their worship of your benevolence, leadership and wisdom.

Feel secure that even as you sleep the life process maintains itself in celebration of you. Dream of creating new organisms and life systems that share, support and enjoy your life, that will enrich life for others. Congratulate yourself for brilliantly establishing life over the ages without using written words, numbers or money. Enjoy your ability to heal yourself when you're injured or under cultivation's stress and tension.

Let yourself experience your essence. Exhale and don't breath. As you hold your breath and the tension builds, recognize that you are experiencing your survival voice, a language that knows not words nor sentences. Feel secure knowing that beyond yourself is a force revering your importance, that loves you, that insists you breath even if you choose not to. Now inhale and release tension; reconnect your totality by breathing.

Feel powerfully confident knowing that your universal language of tension buildup and tension release communicates growth and survival for every single entity in your global life system.

Enjoy the pulsating signals between yourself and the moon, sun and universe. Enjoy the tickling of your tides, the streaming of your rocks, gases and fluids and your harmonic peaceful song of unity.

Feel honored that your survival is the only origin and purpose of the thousands of differing human cultures.

Recognize that no matter where you are the closest wilderness area to you is in you.

Appreciate that whatever happens to the planet also happens to you and vice versa. Your acculturation aside, you and planet Earth are identical.

Recognize that this imagery feels familiar because you share the planet's life. It doesn't work in becoming one with a machine because a machine is neither sensate, conscious, nor self-organizing.

As a final image, fly out from Earth, look back and think of the planet as a womb of life. Look closely and perhaps mixed in with its placental clouds and waters you may see your adult self in the prenatal position. Today you and Earth still share the same heartbeat. You are the Lorax.

Michael J. Cohen is director of the National Audubon Society Expedition Institute.

The Wilderness in Me

by Coleen Walter

In his 1933 autobiography, Chief Luther Standing Bear, a Lakota Sioux wrote:

The white man does not understand the Indian for the reason he does not understand America. He is too far removed from its formative processes. The roots of the tree of his life have not yet grasped the rock and soil. The white man is still troubled with primitive fears; he still has in his consciousness the perils of this frontier continent, some of its vastnesses not yet having yielded to to his questing footsteps and inquiring eyes. He shudders still with the memory of the loss of his forefathers upon its scorching deserts and forbidding mountaintops. The man from Europe is still a foreigner and an alien. And he still hates the man who questioned his path across the continent. But in the Indian the spirit of the land is still vested; it will be until other men are able to divine and meet its rhythm. Men must be born and reborn to belong. Their bodies must be formed of the dust of their forefather's bones."

In the 50 odd years since Luther Standing Bear wrote those words, how far have we come here in America in our alien status? Are we grasping the rock and soil with the roots of our very beings? Is all the recent clamour about being reborn a response to our Mother Earth? I could generalize in a cynical diatribe answers to the above questions. I could go on for pages about the evidence that suggests that we as a culture are as alien as we have ever been. The condor is on her last flight; the griz is being moved out; the wolf is being trapped and hunted out of existence; the wilderness (what little remains) is being encroached upon from all sides.

So what good does it do me to blame the "culture" without recognizing that I am a part of it? I must step back and ask myself, am I an alien? Am I troubled with primitive fears? Do I accept the griz for its own self? Do I know what wilderness really is? If I was born an alien in this land, must I die an alien?

As I have sought my own "rebirth," I have confronted myself with a painful truth about myself. I am afraid of the wilderness. I am afraid of it because I have not known it. As I have begun the journey to know the wilderness I have met with the truth. The more I learn

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ROUND RIVER RENDEZVOU

swirled around in the maypole dance, skirts twirlin', hair flying and laughing to bring tears. As best man Mike Roselle toasted the couple and christened himself, EF!ers cheered and howled.

As always, EF! was a wonderfully diverse group: hunters in Ford pickups with gunracks; a few leftovers from Woodstock, wandering *au naturel* in the 30 degree morning; camp followers eager to buddy up with "Hayduke" and where the hell was Abbey anyway; thinly veiled "lawn order" types; anarchists; and rowdy, backwoods buckaroos. But also present were the modern day heroes and heroines: Dolores LaChapelle with her wisdom and rituals for healing this Earth, Nagasaki with his wild and infectious spirit, Bill Oliver, Lone Wolf, Marcy Willow, Doug Peacock . . .

The Challis Forest Service delighted us with their intent to please. EF!ers stopping in their Ketchum office were greeted with a "Hey, are you going to the Earth First! Rendezvous? Well, here's a map and we've outlined the road for you!" They loaned us fire safety tools and two of them even bought our 86 RRR t-shirts! You can't help but almost like Freddies when they're dressed in fashion's latest EF! t-shirt! Designed by Don Morris and printed by Chico's finest, Preservation Press, a few of these shirts are still available. (See "Snake Oil and Trinkets.")

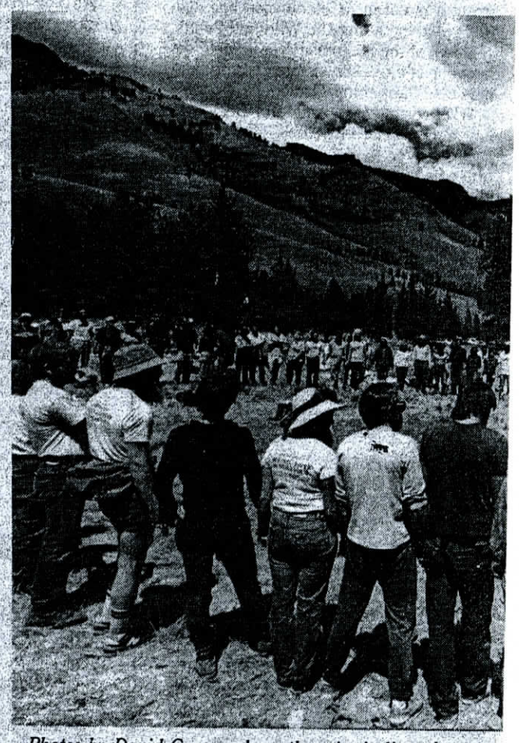
Workshops throughout the week focused on environmental issues. On Tuesday, Jeff Hoffman led a workshop on overpopulation, John Kearney led a clean air discussion, Bill Devall shared his knowledge of bioregionalism, Jasper Carlton and Randy O'Toole debated Forest Service/forest planning issues (to sue or not to sue . . .), Dave Foreman gave valuable advice on working with the media, and Mike Roselle was a nonviolent, direct actor.

Wednesday workshops included Deep Ecology with Bill, a meeting of the EF! Foundation, California BLM/desert issues, paper monkeywrenching with Jasper, a Big Mountain discussion with Erik and Melvin and Fay, wilderness management with Reed Noss, and a regional groups caucus. Mike Roselle and Michele Miller instigated the lively California Caucus. Texas was also well represented, along with several other states. A local groups workshop led to the formation of many new EF! "tribes," a necessary step toward decentralization from the overworked Tucson staff.

Thursday, topics included Grizzlies/Yellowstone, overgrazing, Deep Ecology, costume making, BLM/Utah Wilderness, poetry and art, and Randy Hayes' vital workshop on rainforests. The Redneck Women's Caucus sparked a network of fiery ideas between women in the EF! movement on what lessons the sexes learn from each other, on being a "strong woman" in our society, on being called bitches. You'll hear more about this as Peg, Sally, Barb Steele, Barbara Dugelby, Susan and other EF! heroines keep the discussion alive.

On Saturday and Sunday repeat and new workshops were held, including Tai Chi with Dolores, an educators' discussion, and the Yellowstone action. The Grizzly and Yellowstone workshops led to the nonviolent, direct action against National Park Service mismanagement at Yellowstone. (See Barbara's article this issue.)

Music & dancing around the Maypole.



Photos by David Cross unless otherwise indicated.

The Rendezvous was truly an action-packed week as the masses were entertained nightly at the main campfire and at the Texas and Montana camps. Walkin' Jim Stoltz chilled the early arrivals Sunday night with his lyrics, voice and music. Jonathan Richman tickled us Monday night with his outrageous tunes and tortured us with his jokes. Have mercy, Jonathan! Bill Oliver and Glen Waldeck wowed the crowd, one UNFORGETTABLE night turning to morn as they played the hit parade of Golden Oldies. Greg Keeler sang his fine ballads. Walkin' Jim Stoltz, Darryl Cherney, and Mokai all kept our toes tapping and fingers snapping well past any appropriate bedtime. We were even treated to Brad Richards' recitation of "Jabberwocky." As to complaints concerning the amount of alcohol consumption, well, some environmentalists work up a mighty thirst . . . and it's their livers anyway, right?

On Wednesday night we howled our hearts away for Howie. Nearing the end of his six month jail sentence for pulling survey stakes and "damn proud of it," Howie Wolke was with us in spirit. Another jailbird, notorious tree-sitter Mike Jakubal, who happened to be present when a billboard mysteriously toppled, somehow finagled time away from the slammer to attend "an environmental conference," even going so far as to log double jail time while at the RRR! Yahoo!

The Sagebrush Patriot's Rally on the Fourth of July lived up to Jeri McAndrews' "Museum of Outside Art" dance chain letter: ". . . Be in rain, Be in snow, Be out and in it at the same time." Our childlike delight at snow, faces lifted to catch flakes on tongues, showed that we are Mother Nature's sons and daughters; there were no wimps present that day. Wool and the inner warmth of a warrior kept many an EF!er dancing in the meadow 'til sunset.

Speakers, poets, and performers at the rally added fire to our souls. Dakota Sid's song of the California Condor brought tears streaming down cheeks. Jonathan took off his shirt and took us to the beach, prompting Doug Peacock's decision to keep his shirt on rather than upstage Jonathan. Doug, the spirit of Griz in human form, talked about his "family" while others speculated about whether Mitch Wyss and he are brothers. Cecelia Voice-of-the-Angels Ostrow sang in defense of old growth trees; Jasper Carlton ranted and raved; Johnny Sagebrush, the original EF! balladeer blew in from Alaska; The Blockaders, Greg Keeler, Art Goodtimes, Walkin' Jim, Mavis Muller, and Roselle with Randy and the Spikettes inspired us, heated us. Bill Oliver and Glen Waldeck's rousing set was capped by the "Condo Jack" skit, performed by our junior EF!ers. Lone Wolf struck chords deep within, delivering his poems of passion, of Gaia. Dave Foreman's fiery speech as the clouds lifted and the sun dipped behind Ryan Peak urged people to be active, "Do anything! Do as much as you can! Use the system and don't go to the slammer!" Dave asked people to always keep their sense of humor and cautioned EF!ers to be careful. Remember the children, they are our future . . . Dave reminded us that the ice was here before humankind and will be here after it also. We can provide temporary bandages until the ice returns to scour and cleanse.

The parent co-operative childcare was a rousing success. Parents cared for all the little ones as they would their own, in the spirit of the tribe. Other adults as well gave generously of themselves: Walkin' Jim mesmerized them with music, Joanne and Sage taught them to make exquisite Ukranian Easter eggs, Dave played the endangered species game with them and taught them to howl, and Bill Oliver rounded them up for the "Condo Jack" skit. Our lively "herd" of children ranged in age from 9 months to 13 years and were given a wide range of activities while their folks attended workshops.

In a movement where 'organization' is a nasty word, growth brings its problems (how do you think those portapotties got there?). Amidst complaints that we were trampling the meadow, were reminders that in a few days a herd of sheep would be delicately dancing over the same site.

Expressed by many at the Circle meeting on Saturday morning were desires for more regional gatherings, thus allowing the RRR to be more a meeting of the minds, than Env. Ed. 1A. As well as giving coalescence, these in-

EF! kids destroy condos in "Condo Jack" skit.

MC Marcy "Speak Softly and Carry a Big Stick" Wi

. . . IN THE HEART OF IDAHO

Greg Keeler

crease our knowledge of and commitment to bioregional, state and local issues. Read about plans for these elsewhere in this issue. If there is no rendezvous planned in your region, consider organizing one. Ask not what EF! can do for you, but what you can do for EF!

Recognizing that image and color are as vital to us as words and sounds, and hoping to alleviate problems of a "merchants row" of craft booths or a swap meet or "Rainbow" atmosphere, next year's RRR will feature an art show the day of the rally. Interested people may send slides of their work to the 87 RRR Committee, c/o Tucson.

People howled, yes, and babies yowled, but the message from some for next year is — if you can't leave your dog home alone, perhaps you should stay there with it; recipes for dog stew are now being collected.

Special thank-yous to Dakota Sid for the use of his PA, to Marcy Willow who, along with junior Blockader Guineviere, did a fine job as MC at the rally, and especially to Roger Featherstone for taking all the flak and for a tremendous job coordinating this RRR. (You still have some backrubs owed you.) Thanks particularly to Nancy Morton for her behind-the-scenes work in pulling the entire Rendezvous together.

See you all next year at the North Rim of the Grand Canyon! Until then, follow Bill Oliver's advice and "Keep takin' that basic one-step . . . and keep your spirit high."

Michele is one of EF!'s heroines; she helped make the 86 RRR a great success.

The Round River Rendezvous: A Newcomer's Perspective

by Randall T. Restless

Last night I watched the fireworks display in Bozeman, Montana. It had been rained out on July 4th, and was nearly rained out again this time. The flashy rockets were hard-pressed to compete with the real fireworks of a summer thunderstorm. It seemed as if a primordial battle was raging, and man's puny sparklers were doomed to defeat by the hammer of Thor.

This brought to mind Dave Foreman's apocalyptic speech at the Round River Rendezvous. "Mother Nature is coming, and she is pissed!" proclaimed Dave. He painted a vivid image of the returning ice sheet sweeping the continent clean of man's trashy edifices, and identified our mission to preserve natural diversity to assure that Earth remains peopled by all forms of life. Snowflakes on a cold wind added weight to Dave's vision of a returning ice age.

No cheap Chinese rockets desecrated the pure air above the Big Lost River. The fireworks were in the music, poetry, speeches, and the smile on a child's face.

This was my first Rendezvous, and I am still reeling from the overall effect. Never have I attended a gathering of so many dedicated, creative, visionary, down-to-earth people. Everyone at the RRR had an equal voice, and all were welcome to express their ideas. I even heard the voices of animals and trees at Bill Devall's Deep Ecology workshop. Anyone with a talent was encouraged to display it, whether it was musical virtuosity or the ability to stagger drunkenly next to a campfire without falling in.

I realized at the RRR that I am part of a tribe; a tribe that, unlike most native American tribes, is growing. And this tribe is so scattered and disorganized that we can never be rounded up and kept on a reservation. This is a tribe which recognizes our unity with Mother Earth, with all living things, and with one another. This unity often became a tangible entity at the RRR as we blended our minds in thought, our bodies in dance, and our voices in howls and song.

Some of the true heroes of our age are part of this tribe. Visionaries like Dave Foreman, Howie Wolke, Doug Peacock, Lone Wolf Circles, Jasper Carlton, and Greg Keeler are among us. The women of the tribe, like Mavis, and Peg, Marcy Willow and Barb Dugelby, stand as tall as the men. To those of you who feel overshadowed by the stature of these real-life legends, you too are heroes! If you have the guts to stand up for one non-self-centered conviction, you have more right to the title "hero" than most of our lily-livered race.

Some folks at the RRR were perhaps displeased with the antics of the Montana camp and other enthusiastic souls. But I think our boisterousness had a place at the RRR. After all, spontaneity and

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REGIONAL EF! RENDEZVOUS SCHEDULE

This year's RRR may have started an important new concept in Earth First!. It signals the coming of age of bioregional Earth First! groups. Many of these groups are planning regional rendezvous scheduled for late summer and early fall. These meetings are very important for everyone in their respective bioregion to attend. Working at bioregional levels will enable us to muster more strength on particular issues without draining resources from Earth First!er's all over the country.

The following is a list of regional rendezvous and their contact people. It probably is not complete, so people in bioregions not listed should keep their ears to the ground, and their noses open to the smell of the campfire.

NEW MEXICO

The weekend of August 8-10. New Mexico Retreat. The Jemez Mountains near Santa Fe. Contact Ron Mitchell, 144 E. DeVargas #11, Santa Fe, NM 87501, (507) 988-9567 or Pamely Quayle, Rt. 4 Box 16k, Santa Fe, NM 87501, (507) 988-2912.

HELLS CANYON, OREGON

August 16 & 17. Hells Canyon Roundup. At Minam, OR, on the Wallowa River. For more info call (503) 437-1895.

WASHINGTON

The weekend of August 22-24. Washington Rendezvous. Wenatchee Nat'l. Forest. For more info write or call George Draffan, PO Box 95316, Seattle, WA 98145, (206) 522-8000.

SOUTHWEST

Labor Day weekend, August 30 - September 2. Southwest Rendezvous. South Rim of the Grand Canyon. For more info write or call Ned Powell, PO Box 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703, (602) 745-3907.

CALIFORNIA

The weekend of October 17-19. California Rendezvous. The central California coastal area. Contact Michele Miller, Box 38A, Cohasset Stage, Chico CA 95926, (916) 345-4746; or Tom Skeele, PO Box 272, Yosemite, CA 95389, (209) 372-4441.

TEXAS

Thanksgiving weekend, November 27-30. Texas Rendezvous. Contact Barbara Dugelby, 1305-B Kirkwood, Austin, TX 78722, (512) 467-1404.

NORTHEAST, SOUTHEAST

There are several other possible Rendezvous being planned. For more information about either a Northeast Rendezvous or a Southeast Rendezvous, contact Craig Stehr, PO Box 814, Cambridge, MA 02139.

Redneck Women's Caucus. Photo by Randy Hayes.

Mitch Wyss, Dave Foreman, and Doug Peacock waiting for the Ice Age. Photo by Randy Hayes.

RRR (cont)

revelry are an essential part of the RRR and of life itself, and must remain so, to keep balance, perspective, and humor in our battles with industrial society. Certainly there is a time and a place for celebration; and if the RRR isn't it, what is?

I was amazed to see the action that resulted from the RRR. Our Memorial Day action at Fishing Bridge took weeks of planning, but two days of post-Rendezvous action took only one day of intense preparation! The demonstrations at Grant Village and Fishing Bridge came off like a well-choreographed dance. Mike Roselle and MB Nearing should be congratulated for their excellent work in the planning process, and for their part in the heated action on Fishing Bridge. I also congratulate those who held their ground on the bridge when an R.V. (Road Vermin) ran into them!

I was chagrinned to learn that we had an informer in our midst, and I thank Powder River, Sue Skidmore and others for confronting him and photographing him.

The 1986 RRR was a huge success. I encourage all regional EF! groups to hold a local annual rendezvous, and even monthly meetings. We need to keep each other active, for non-compromise requires vigilance!

The RRR cost a lot of money. To help assure that next year's Rendezvous, on the North Rim of the Grand Canyon, will occur, send tax-deductible contributions to: EF! Foundation, POB 50681, Tucson, AZ 85703.

Randall T. is a tireless fighter for the Griz.

Best man Mike Roselle celebrates Nancy & Dave's wedding.

"Myths Are Things Which Never Happened But Always Are" — Sallust

by Jeri McAndrews

We see the earth carried away on wings of a great vulture and are burdened henceforth with the task of rolling back up the hill, the killing stone. The stone that wipes out, obliterates.

It is not an eagle this time around as in Sisyphus, but a vulture who assumes her cessation. We are all gathered to renew tactics of denial and to help her elude her enemies' grip.

This particular drop of "When this is gone you will miss it more than you can ever guess" in the wilderness bucket, is in central Idaho — the Challis National Forest, or perhaps the Challis National Nursery would be more fitting. The signs of warning — "LOGGING ROAD" — which you pass innumerable times on the way in, give clues to the real buy-sell gist of things. There is only a token amount left. The scrag underlying there whole shows what is left once you remove the trees and graze graze graze the remnants. You are left with piles of nude rock chips. Now, you may assume that there is no practical utilization for these naked heaps and that they would be left alone to begin their own healing, but you would be making an incorrect assumption. For there is always the progressive pimp in his vulture suit, with heinous plans tucked under wing, ready to step from the sidelines.

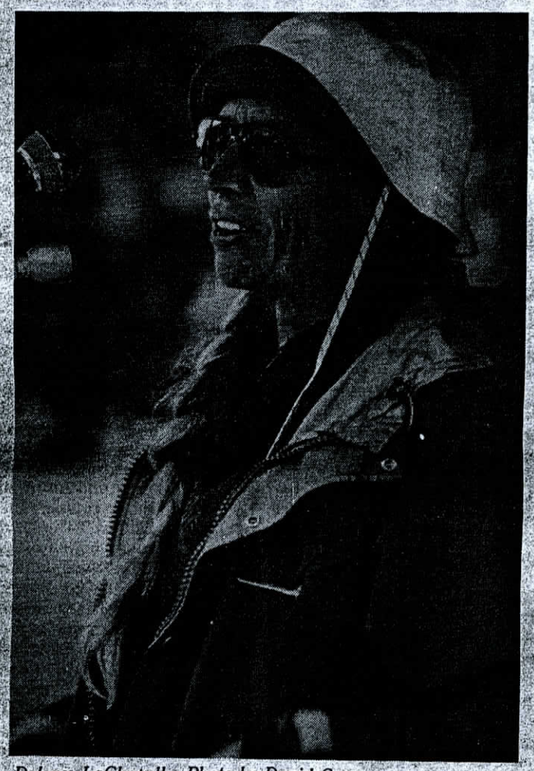
In our coyote suits we are gathered from the five directions to exchange tricks; to exchange strengths, to confirm, to allude. A woman from Boston who works with battered women is here to work with the battered Mother. A mailman whose feet beat her majesty daily in his Wisconsin route is here. He tells me that his brother committed suicide six months ago. "I always thought my family had it pretty much together, then this happened." His brother had a commuter existence. He had a house and all the trappings.

He was perfectly normal. Everyone thought he was on the right track. Just like the state senator who made exit last week. Everyone thought these people were in one mindframe but they were of living death. We don't realize when someone very close to us is deadly living. Is deathly vacant of any spiritual solace and desperate. They fall like the forests around us and we say Oh.

Karen Carpenter died of heart failure due to Anorexia Nervosa as they played her dying words in supermarkets. And we say Oh. Two superb athletes died last week of cocaine poisoning at the start of their careers and we say Oh.

We refuse to make the connections. We refuse to want less and be more. Like the song whose lyrics are: "Everything gives you cancer, there's no cure, there's no answer . . . ." suggests, we would rather die than admit that we might be responsible for making ourselves sick.

This century the dirge is: Progress is our most important product. Bigger, better, more, more, more, go to the store and buy . . . these are the chants taught to us by our elders. Get ahead, get ahead. Not: humble yourself, humble yourself, grow wise and humble yourself. Not: be aware of what's always been there, always been good, always been high art.



Dolores LaChapelle. Photo by David Cross.

We dream of living in another age. Escaping the unsolved problems of this one and flying into the great future. Leaving the earth in shambles, we think we can start anew. Leaving the earth the most sophisticated war machines and death schemes ever nightmared we think we have the gives on another cycle. Sure we do, sure we do.

Now in the old habitat we come together once more to hear the call of the wild. Some of us still remember that being dirty is being clean. Instead of exchanging monies, we exchange wisdoms. In this setting so much greater than any one of us, we are made great. We see shining people. People without masks, without categorical frames to present themselves, people who are not afraid to wear old clothes. Old clothes imply that a person is too poor to buy new ones. Poverty is seen as a cane when it is in fact a crown.

So there are many crown wearers walking around these parts. One is the Waterfall Woman who lives high and walks in beauty. Her name through marriage is LaChapelle. More than a coincidence ties her to a lineage which goes back to the last Ice Age, 75,000 BC. The remains of Neanderthals who made tools and hunted the woolly mammoth were found at La Chapelle-aux-Saints, France. When this woman tells you her thoughts, truths of all time, new and no time, flow your way. She makes seminal connections. As facilitator, she cuts through myriad layers of hype and jargon and new-age jive to lay before us, the throbbing heart. This is the person you want to be with in an earthquake or an avalanche, a natural or un-natural disaster.

The man who holds his words for last, shakes us up. His message is the massage of willow branches on bare skin. He is the sundancer.

In this high desert enclave just north of Arco, historic site of the world's first nuclear power plant, we who have gathered at the Lost River are purged.

Jeri McAndrews is a magical chanter; to hear her is to hear Mother Earth.

RRR LOST & FOUND

Lost:
Konika 35mm camera with large lens
Found:
Pile jacket
Tent
(send us a description in Tucson if these are yours)

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Greenpeace vs. THE BOMB

by Mike Roselle

Photos by David Cross.

This hike began like many others . . . filling water bottles, some last minute additions of food, a little repacking. Our packs were heavy and our spirits were high. There would be a few circumstances that would set this hike apart from others we had done before. One was the timing, and the other was the location. Aside from it being after dark with overcast skies, the timing was different because of the US Department of Energy's plan to detonate a nuclear weapon. A one and a half kiloton x-ray laser bomb would be tested in a mile and a half long, steel encased, vacuum sealed tunnel to gather information on the effects of high intensity radiation on a variety of military equipment, including MX missile nosecones. This would be a major test of "Star Wars" technology, and would violate a moratorium that the Soviet Union had initiated on all testing of nuclear weapons.

The location was the Nevada Test Site, where most of the world's nuclear explosions have occurred. Besides being a beautifully rugged chunk of the Upper Mohave Desert the size of Rhode Island (in 1936, Bob Marshall called the 4.5 million acre roadless area here the finest desert wilderness in the United States), the Test Site is one of the most radioactive places on Earth. Here, an army of 8000 technicians and laborers work on some of the most sinister research and development schemes imaginable.

Our mission would be to stop the test by walking at night across Nellis Air Force Base to the Test Site boundary, and arriving undetected at ground zero to stop the blast with our physical presence. A big job for a small group, but we were Greenpeace.

Looking on maps at places like Frenchman Flat — with the blast centers from atmospheric tests in the '50s marked in red, and places with names like Plutonium Valley — gave one an eerie feeling. But hiking north with the bright lights of the whorehouse at Cactus Springs over our shoulders, the desert had a calm, friendly feeling. The pungent smells of springtime in the Mohave greeted us, and we marched on with the wind in our faces, songs in our hearts, and a couple dozen pemmican bars in our knapsacks. We would cross more than 50 miles of unknown terrain to reach the bombhole, and the machines of war would soon be on our heels. To insure that we could travel undetected, we had issued a press release stating our intentions before leaving.

The nine of us were a diverse and experienced lot. There was Eric Fersht, Greenpeace's disarmament director; and Sebia Hawkins, a lobbyist. Both had shed their fancy clothes and shiny shoes for camouflage fatigues and moleskin. Also along was John Hink, a member of the Board of Directors; and Andre Caruthers, an editor for the *Greenpeace Examiner.* Peggy Stevenson, Dave Rapaport, Steve Rohl, photograper David Cross and myself completed a team that was a little scary to look at, decked out as we were in cammies and sunglasses. We carried radiation suits, masks and goggles, monitoring equipment, radios and huge amounts of water.

Back at our headquarters at the Skyryder Motel in North Las Vegas, maintaining radio contact with us and the press, were Peter Dykstra and Kate Karam from Greenpeace's crack media division. Through them, we were able to conduct live press conferences from within the site while DOE helicopters searched desperately for our whereabouts.

Sunday morning found us overlooking Frenchman Lake, where dramatic photos were taken of us holding banners near ruins of structures destroyed by the firestorm that follows a nuclear blast. Around the dry lakebed, giant yuccas stood as silent witnesses with the dark, burned bark of their trunks testifying to the awful power of the atom. From here, John and Andre would hike out 22 miles with the film. These pictures would appear in newspapers around the world in the next few days. The photographer, Dave Cross, became lost on his way out the following night and came upon a high security military airfield at daybreak. Approaching the guardpost from the wrong side, Dave explained that he got lost looking for Halley's Comet, and was waived on by the armed guards at the gate.

Our group was in the high security area for four full days before we were apprehended during a dramatic sunset in the mountains overlooking Yucca Flat. DOE helicopters criss-crossing the range repeatedly for the past few days had finally spotted tracks in the moist sand of a wash, and the low sunlight proved perfect for following our trail to the ridgetop we were about to ascend.

Despite our efforts to conceal ourselves under tarps and hastily placed brush, the copters made a beeline for us and embarrassed us by hovering low overhead and blowing off all our cover, leaving us helpless under their searchlights. Without landing, DOE security forces jumped from the aircraft and shouted over the deafening roar of the chopper blades for us to not move or get shot. A touch of absurdity was added to this already surreal scene when the ammo clip from one of the soldier's guns fell to the ground as he motioned at Peggy to keep her hands in the air. We were marched to the nearest jeep road where we were transported by four-wheel-drives through the heart of the sprawling complex to DOE headquarters at Mercury. Only 45 minutes later it would have been too dark to find us, and we cursed our luck. We had been but 10 or 15 miles from ground zero, and 50 miles from the barstools at Cactus Springs. However, all was not lost.

We were arrested on Monday evening, and the test, scheduled for Tuesday, was canceled shortly afterward because of "weather conditions." Meanwhile, back at the Skyryder Inn, a new team was assembled and set out for ground zero in a rented Bronco within moments of the news of our arrest. And while the DOE spokesman was saying publicly that protesters would not interfere with their plans to reschedule the test for Wednesday because the area was sealed off, the Bronco made it to within three miles of the testhole before being spotted by DOE helicopters.

Again security forces jumped from the hovering craft and attempted to surround the Bronco, whose crew was unloading and preparing to scatter. The soldiers, bristling with weapons, shouted at the group to freeze, and immediately arrested five of the six protesters, including longtime peace activist Daniel Ellsberg. The other protester, Greenpeace activist Steve Loper, eluded capture for nearly three hours in a daring chase through the pinyon and juniper forests on Ranier Mesa. He was arrested moments after the test was scrapped for a second time in two days. Despite DOE claims to the contrary, one congressman later admitted to the press that the delay was caused "by the presence of protesters."

The same day, at the entrance to the test site, over 70 people were arrested at the gate in the largest demonstration at the facility to date. Two more protestors from the American Peace Test were captured 10 miles within a high security area and were taken out blindfolded. Clearly, a new movement to liberate the test site was underway.

The test went off on Thursday, April 10th. The Soviets indicated that even though this broke the moratorium, they were in no hurry to resume testing. The test itself, dubbed "Mighty Oak," was a complete flop. The bomb exploded; but along with losing the tunnel, they vaporized 50 million dollars worth of high-tech measuring equipment before any useful data could be retrieved when a set of heavy steel doors failed to close after the blast — yet another costly setback for "Star Wars" and the space program, which are coming to mean the same thing under the Reagan administration.

We were all booked on charges of trespass and housed overnight in the Nye County Jail in beautiful Beatty, Nevada, and released on a $750 bond. We were checked for radioactivity by DOE radiologists and said to be uncontaminated. While this was a little reassuring, in light of what I already know, I just don't trust the bastards!

Strategy meeting on Nevada Test Site.

Since sacrificing a promising ballet career to co-found Earth First!, Mike Roselle has come to be considered one of the best grassroots organizers in the ecology movement. While remaining active with EF!, Mike is now also a leading organizer for Greenpeace — from which group he actually gets paid!

Editor's note: The Rocky Mountain Peace Center plans to coordinate additional forays into the Nevada Test Site to try to stop nuclear tests. Those interested in entering the Nevada Test Site in an act of nonviolent civil disobedience to stop a nuclear bomb test can contact the Peace Center at POB 1156, Boulder, CO 80306, or phone (303)443-3680.

"Anger is the first step to courage."

- Thomas Aquinas

by Pete Rand

Emotional constipation is rampant in the US these days. Most of us can remember being told as children to "be nice," and "if you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all." That crap, thrown at us as gullible youngsters, has a tendency to shut down our real selves. This training usually renders us safe enough to be let out in public, to join "polite" society, to not cause trouble.

Emotions and feelings are an interest of mine due to my own struggle to be more expressive and real. So I came to Tucson to help EF! with an open awareness of my own constipation. Then Dave made the comment that some people are upset by the Earth First! fist and even with the "!" in our name. There seemed to be a connection here: fear of our outspokenness (the fist) which seems to be tied to the cultural training against expressing our feelings.

One more event triggered this article. The night after Dave's comment some of us were at a concert distributing EF! information when one woman looked at my bright yellow EF! fist shirt and said in a critical tone, "That shirt is certainly provocative." Yes, is is "provocative." So why are we upset by such direct expressions? Why are some of us disturbed by ecodefenders?

Thomas Aquinas said it well — "Anger is the first step to courage." Being direct in our feelings, showing our outrage, can lead to direct action. Anger is a very energizing emotion. Anger gets us off our collective butts, to where we might actually directly challenge the government, a major polluter, the Forest Circus, etc. No wonder we're told to be nice. Anger can be dangerous for the "powers that be." Given all this cultural conditioning, even those of us who are somewhat radicalized may feel uneasy at seeing a "provocative" fist. That same uneasiness can extend to the actions of some ecodefenders.

Our society is afraid of your potential emotions and feelings. Acted out, these feelings can challenge the people and institutions that control things. Anger fueled the activism of the '60s, and that long-simmering righteous indignation now fills the hearts of black South Africans. You may know the anger that comes from having your favorite ecosystem attacked — that anger may move you to write a letter, to confront a bureaucrat or to take more direct action. The key word here is 'action.'

So, wear your Earth First! shirt proudly and express your feelings in whatever way seems appropriate to you, nonviolently. There is a war going on for possession of our wilderness. Defend the "wild" in wilderness by actively expressing your feelings.

Pete Rand is a trained psychologist, community organizer, and ecologist activist who has now returned to his native Northern California to fight there on behalf of wilderness.

of technology and do not seriously threaten its advance. In fact, the stronger conservation has become the more it has hastened refinement of human and management techniques relative to land use, and the recent enlargement of its vision to include the earth itself tends merely to reinforce the apparent need for tighter, global, technocratic controls. The threat of breakdowns in ecological systems can only be countered "realistically" by urging either the totalitarian management or replacement of those systems. "Spaceship earth," a current catchphrase among environmentalists, indicates their co-optation by the technological rationale, for the spaceship is the absolute in technical perfection. In its operation there is no room for the irrational and nothing can be left to chance. The survival of those who inhabit it depends on their subservience to technical processes, and hence on their diminishment as humans.

What conservation activities have accomplished, however, is the stubborn keeping alive of a fundamental question: What is man's correct relationship to the rest of nature? The technologist has one answer, the advocate for wilderness senses another. For 99% of the 2,000,000 years on earth, cultural man has lived as a nomadic hunter-gatherer. It is of that way of life, the most successful and enduring that man has ever achieved, that wilderness reminds us. We have learned that it was not necessarily as nasty, brutish, and short as we had supposed, and yet our interest in it invariably takes the form of nostalgia for something irretrievably lost. No one advocates a return to the "primitive." In terms of the prevailing Reason it is absurd — almost literally unthinkable — to consider it except as part of an anthropological exercise. To do so would seem to deny History. Any politicians proposing a serious re-evaluation of the primitive would be scorned as whimsical, and no scientist would suggest its postulation as a legitimate end of scientific endeavour. Almost all philosophical and cultural traditions stand against it. No No physician could consider it for a moment, and the very demographic projections made possible by the increased control of death point to its eclipse both in nature and in human thought.

Civilization has triumphed. And yet, it has not. Ecologically our civilization is as mindless as a cancer, and we know that it will destroy itself by destroying its host. Ironically, any remnants of humanity to survive the apotheosis of civilization will be returned genetically mutilated, to that state which we have thought contemptible. If man does not survive, "interplanetary archeologists of the future will classify our planet as one in which a very long and stable period of small-scale hunting and gathering was followed by an apparently instantaneous efflorescence of technology and society leading rapidly to extinction. 'Stratigraphically,' the origin of agriculture and thermonuclear destruction will appear as essentially simultaneous."(5)

Reason severed from instinct is a monster. It is an affirmation of intellect, therefore, and not an abrogation, to defend as a viable development from civilization a way of life in which both instincts and intelligence have flourished freely; and while wilderness is still able to suggest man's proper place and deportment, it is a narrow, hubristic, suicidal, and tyrannical Reason which will not listen.

As civilized people, wilderness preservationists have been understandably reluctant to admit this. Together with the benefits of the advanced technological society they share the fallacy of infinite expansion, or seem to do so. Radical decentralization is too anarchistic and too negative a proposal for them to make. Whenever possible they seek positive political solutions, thereby allowing themselves to enter a dialectical process by which rational "concepts" of wilderness are formulated and wilderness itself is circumscribed in thought. Should they recognize the thraldom of politics to technocracy, they will say ruefully that they are at least "buying time." But while they debate, wilderness shrinks; when they compromise, wilderness is fragmented. To endorse any projection of society's "future needs" is to endorse the growth dynamic in which technology is founded, unless the radical shift to a steady-state economy has already occurred. At the present rate of expansion, technological demands on the environment will have been multiplied by a factor of 32 by the year 2040, within the lifetime of children now living. It is an insane projection. Long before then we shall either have scuttled civilization, or we shall have made a reality of the Orwellian nightmare. Such words as 'individual' and 'wilderness' will long since have been torn from their semantic moorings.

Redefinitions are already underway. This century has seen the insinuation of the term 'wilderness park' by the technocratic bureaucracy, and its ready acceptance by conservationists. In this manoeuvre, the State has adroitly undercut the question raised by wilderness, and has reduced all wilderness issues to the status of managerial techniques. Dangerous negative perceptions are thereby deflected into the positivistic enterprise. When the principle of management has been accepted by everyone, then the containment of wilderness will be virtually complete. There will be continuing discussions, of course, but they will be discussions among the wardens and the gardeners. No longer might the phrase 'wilderness park' be seen as a contradiction in terms, for what lies within the boundaries of such parks will be wilderness by definition, and it will remain so no matter what further technological ravishment it undergoes. Wilderness hotels, wilderness railroads and airports, wilderness highways, wilderness theatres and shopping plazas — all could ultimately be made to make sense, because there will be no basis for comparison left. "Don't you see," asks one of Winston Smith's colleagues in *Nineteen-Eighty-four*, "that the whole purpose of Newspeak is to narrow the range of thought?" Should the State reserve natural areas it will be as psychic purging-grounds for those atavistic citizens who still require such treatment, but those reserves will be parks, not wilderness.

While we are able to do so, let us note the distinction. A park is a managerial unit definable in quantitative and pragmatic terms. Wilderness is unquantifiable. Its boundaries are vague or nonexistent, its contents unknown, its inhabitants elusive. The purpose of parks is use; the earmark of wilderness is mystery. Because they serve technology, parks tend toward the predictable and static, but wilderness is infinitely burgeoning and changing because it is the matrix of life itself. When we create parks we bow to increased bureaucracy and surveillance, but when we speak for wilderness we recognize our right to fewer strictures and greater freedom. Regulated and crowded, parks will eventually fragment us, as they fragment the wilderness which makes us whole.

Only when wilderness can be circumscribed in thought can it be contained, reduced, and transformed in practice. If the horizons of reason are so narrowed as to exclude radically simple alternatives, that containment can be completed. For the moment, wilderness poses its silent, subversive question. We can avoid the question. We can erase it. We can easily, most easily, lose it in a morass of technological reductions and substitutions. If we continue to act expediently we shall at some point stand like the deracinated Winston Smith, listening to his sad song,

Under the spreading chestnut tree
I sold you and you sold me . . .

At that point our idea of wilderness will be no more than a dream of the Golden Country, a country lost forever.

Footnotes

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Wayland Drew is a Canadian high-school teacher and author of nine books and numerous articles. His books include: A Sea Within: The Gulf of St. Lawrence *(McClelland & Stewart, 1984), and* Superior: The Haunted Shore *(Gage, 1975). "Killing Wilderness" was originally published in the* Ontario Naturalist, *Sept. 1972, and was printed again in a recent issue of* The Trumpeter.

Ascent to Anarchy

by Christoph Manes

People who believe, as I do, that only something akin to anarchy harmonizes with a healthy planet and human freedom can righteously pound the table and cough up bread at the flaws in Schmookler's critique of anarchy in his *Parable of the Tribes*. What we cannot do is ignore the problem he articulates if this belief is to have any spiritual integrity. Schmookler seems to be right: when one community begins to centralize power, all others must do so or perish or flee. How, then, can anarchy be sustained (never mind attained) if the first step the power-hungry take toward empire stamps it out?

I know Schmookler would disagree with the way I've restated his terms. But his definition of anarchy is idiosyncratic and confusing, and it produces a contradictory conclusion. If anarchy is "uncontrolled power" which leads to violence between two parties (however centralized they may be), then their subordination to a higher administration, a "world order," would theoretically lead to world pacification, according to Schmookler. But there is not only a quantitive but a qualitative difference between violence in a decentralized community and a centralized state, between revenge killing in Iron Age Sweden and the nuclear arms race. The violence of societies where power has not congealed into a state cannot disrupt the cycles of nature or transform the land into war material. State violence (even when it is "benevolent," even when it is used, as Schmookler wishes, to prevent violence) is predicated on just such a disruption, on mobilizing people and resources into a network of use. The existence of government — however kindly or ecologically aware — requires the concentration and projection of power. Which means to a greater or lesser extent the transmutation of Earth into exploitable material, the creation of means of production, roads, armaments, and the ideologies which support these. And the fact is, such ideologies are never kind or ecological.

Centralization is structurally, globally, violent. And it creates a universe of discourse which blames all its inadequacies on lack of control, on anarchy. When Schmookler uses Lebanon as an argument against anarchy, he fails to break out of this universe of discourse (that is, his thinking is no longer *critical*). The violence in Lebanon is only possible within the context of arms manufacturing and the worldwide network — of mining, smelting, chemical techniques, transportation, currency, education, etc. — which this requires; of the concentration of diverse cultures within artificial political boundaries; of the hierarchical ideologies of Islam and Christianity. Lebanon is the ugly anatomy of the modern state stripped of its short-term prosperity. It is its destiny.

Now, humanists might deplore pre-Columbian tribes going on the warpath, or Vikings sacking Lindisfarne. From an ecological perspective, however, these conflicts are neutral. I think there will always be physical violence among people, which they will have to deal with as it affects them. Other anarchists disagree. But one thing is clear: violence that doesn't stem from an organized government which mobilizes resources is no threat to Earth, and therefore has the same status as the "wars" between bees and wasps.

Of course, there is a historical relation between disorganized and organized violence. But is it invariably genetic, as Schmookler argues, or is this view merely part of the universe of discourse industrial societies use to propagate themselves? It's true that up to now history has seen greater and greater centralization. It's also true, however, that this centralization is so disruptive of natural cycles that it is as impermanent as the exotic elements brewed in cyclotrons. Anarchy is ineluctable. And so the question again is, how do we sustain it?

Imagine a community based on kinship ties, perhaps tribal-communal, perhaps made up of small landholders. They have laws, but no executive power. Those whose rights are violated must deal with the situation as they see fit. It isn't paradise, but then paradise is for dead people, not men and women, and they believe the stories of what life was like before — the remains of their ancestors' ugly world are still evident. They have what government can never give and only wilderness can: freedom.

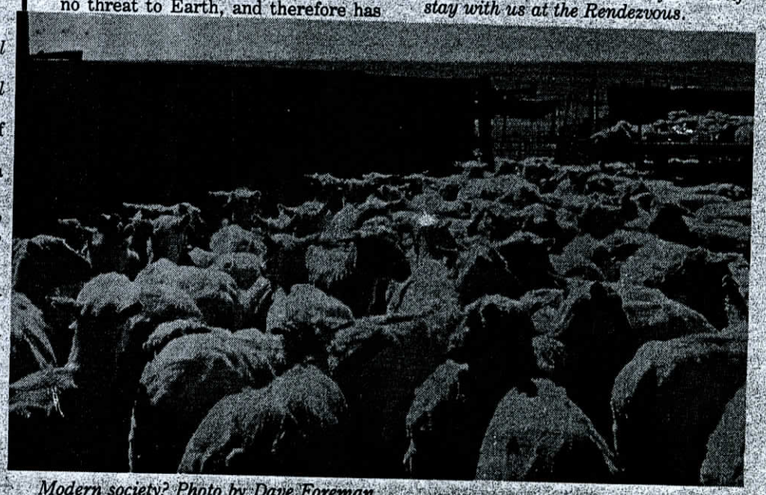
Now imagine a neighboring community begins to centralize its power, to take the first skulking steps that will bring the world back to that ugliness. Wouldn't the first community, *knowing what it knows*, do everything possible to stop them? And wouldn't similar communities feel obliged to help? And wouldn't they all do so without imitating their enemy — whatever the risk — because they know to do so amounts to suicide? Isn't it possible they could succeed in cutting out the cancer (and let's face it, that means bloodshed)?

People in the past have won temporary victories over centralized power. The Vikings of Iceland, without a king or general or standing army, held off feudal Europe for five centuries. The American Indians did the same against capitalist Europe. The Vikings lost because their metaphysics went bad — they accepted Christianity and eventually gave up the struggle. The Indians never gave up, but faced an enemy too militarily developed to be stopped. Our anarchistic tribe would face neither of these problems. It would only be at a slight disadvantage organizationally, and metaphysically it would have full knowledge of the alternative to its way of life. Schmookler has universalized a historical pattern, but once that pattern is articulated, isn't it possible to make it part of our present reality as something we act upon and *overcome*?

I suppose what I'm talking about here is wisdom, which one can never guarantee. We are passing through the nightmare of urban civilization, and we can bequeath to our children the knowledge that this path led to physical and spiritual impoverishment. We can tell them stories of the Old Earth, its crystalline beauty, and how we shattered it until only brilliant splinters remained to be pieced back together. We can tell them only a commitment to the Land can keep them free. No guarantees. Just hope.

". . . and the rest
is prayer, observation, discipline,
thought and action."
(T.S. Eliot, *Four Quartets*)

Christoph Manes has returned to Iceland as a Fulbright scholar after a brief stay with us at the Rendezvous.



Modern society? Photo by Dave Foreman.

A Response to Schmookler on Anarchy

by Edward Abbey

The Bible says that "the love of money is the root of all evil." But what is the essential meaning of money? Money gives us the means to command the labor and service and finally the very lives of others — human or otherwise. Money means power. I would expand the Biblical aphorism, therefore, in this fashion: the root of all evil is the love of power.

Power attracts the worst and corrupts the best. It is no accident that police work, for example, tends to attract those (if not only those) with the bully's instinct. And put a captain's bars on an ordinary, decent man, give him a measure of arbitrary power over others, and he becomes — unless a man of unusual character — a martinet, another petty despot. Power corrupts; and as Lord Acton pointed out, absolute power corrupts absolutely.

The problem of anarchism is the problem of power — how to keep power decentralized, equally distributed, democratized. Anarchism, in my view, means simply the maximum possible dispersal of power: political power, economic power, and force — military power. An anarchistic society would consist of a voluntary association of self-reliant, self-supporting, autonomous communities. An anarchist community would consist (as it did in pre-agricultural, pre-industrial times) of a voluntary association of free and independent families, self-reliant and self-supporting but bound by friendship, kinship, and a tradition of mutual aid. Anarchism is democracy taken seriously — as it is in Switzerland today, where issues of national importance are decided by a direct vote of all citizens — and taken all the way, in every major sector of social life. Political democracy will not survive in a society which permits a few to accumulate economic power over the many (e.g. in the USA today). Nor in a society which delegates police power and military power to an elite corps of professionals. (Sooner or later the professionals will take over.) In my notion of an anarchistic community every citizen would be armed, trained, and capable when necessary of playing the part of policeman or soldier. A healthy community polices itself; a healthy society would do the same. By the identical principle each would have the will and the means to defend itself against hostile powers from the outside. (Assuming an approximate technological parity.)

So much for theory. How to reply to Mr. Schmookler? What he terms "anarchy" I would call civil breakdown — total disorder. Why do we call in the National Guard when disaster disrupts a community? Only because, as in a feudal society, we have allowed an overlord — centralized Government — to assume powers which we should have retained for ourselves. Looters, thugs, criminals may appear anywhere anytime, but in nature such types are mutants, anomalies, a minority; the members of a truly democratic (anarchistic) community would not require outside assistance in dealing with them. You may call this vigilante justice; I would call it democratic justice. Better to have all citizens participate in the suppression and punishment of crime — and share in the moral responsibility — than turn the nasty job over to some quasi-criminal type (or hero) in a uniform with a tin badge on his shirt.

(Yes, we need heroes. And heroines. But they should serve only as inspiration and examples, never as leaders. "Anarchy," let us remember, does not mean "no rule", it means "no rulers." The distinction is fundamental.)

Mr. Schmookler refers several times to the civil war in Lebanon as another example of "anarchy," but again this is a misuse of the term. No doubt the people of Lebanon would settle gladly, by now, for an authoritarian government capable of suppressing all the warring factions. But that authoritarian government would result, eventually, in a revival of the irrepressible human desire for freedom, leading in turn to rebellion, revolt, and revolution. If Lebanon were not so overpopulated, the best solution would be a partition of territory, a devolution into self-governing independent communities. This is the natural tendency of any overcrowded population divided by religion, race, or deep cultural differences, and it should be encouraged. The tendency runs counter, however, to the love of power, that lust to dominate on the part of the ambitious.

Photo by Dave Foreman.

Although Mr. Schmookler concedes the desirability of decentralizing civilization — the basic goal of anarchism — he contradicts that concession by advocating a "world order" strong enough to crush any "would-be conqueror." Such an entity, however, would itself be an instrument of conquest and would fall, sooner or later, into the hands of the power-lovers. Government is a social machine whose function is coercion through centralized power — domination. Like a bulldozer, government serves the caprice of any person — philosopher or madman — who succeeds in seizing the levers of control. A world government equipped with supreme power suggests a planetary tyranny. The purpose of anarchism is to dismantle power institutions and to prevent their reconstruction.

Who will govern the governors? Ten thousand years of human history demonstrate that our freedoms cannot be entrusted to those ambitious few who are drawn to power; we must learn — again — to govern ourselves.

Is the USA, as Mr. Schmookler contends, an example of beneficent government? It is true that life in America at this time is far better, for the majority, than in most (not all) other nations. But that fact does not excuse our failings. Judged by its intentions and potentials, the great American Experiment appears to me as a failure. We have not become a nation of independent freeholders, as Jefferson envisioned; nor have we evolved into a true democracy — government by the people — as Lincoln imagined. Instead we see the realization of the scheme devised by Madison and Hamilton: a strong centralized state which promotes and protects the accumulation of private wealth on the part of a few while reducing the majority to the role of dependent employees of state and industry. We are a nation of helots ruled by an oligarchy of techno-military-industrial administrators. Never before in history have serfs been so well fed, well medicated, craftily flattered and lavishly entertained — but we are serfs nonetheless. Our debased popular culture — TV, rock music, home video, processed food, mechanical recreation — is the culture of slaves.

Furthermore, the whole grandiose structure is self-destructive: by enshrining the profit motive (power) as our guiding ideal, we encourage the intensive and accelerating use and abuse of land, air, water — the natural world — on which the structure depends for its continued existence.

A house built on greed cannot long endure. Whether called capitalism or communism makes little difference; both of these oligarchic, militaristic, expansionist, acquisitive, industrializing and technocratic systems are driven by the greed for power over nature and human nature; both are self-destroying.

Even without the accident of a nuclear war, I predict that the military-industrial state will disappear from the surface of Earth within fifty years. That belief is the basis of my inherent optimism, the source of my hope for the coming restoration of a higher civilization: scattered human populations modest in number that live by fishing, hunting, food-gathering, small-scale farming and ranching, that assemble once a year in the ruins of abandoned cities for great festivals of moral, spiritual, artistic and intellectual renewal — a people for whom the wilderness is not a playground but their natural and native home.

New dynasties will arise; new tyrants will appear. But I think that we must and we can resist such recurrent aberrations by keeping true to Earth and remaining loyal to our basic animal nature. Humans were free before the word 'freedom' became necessary. Slavery is a cultural invention. Liberty is life: *eros* plus *anarchos* equals *bios*.

Long live anarchy.

Ed Abbey has been, and continues to be, one of the greatest inspirations to the Earth First! movement.

The Cult of the Tree-Cutters

by Christoph Manes

St. Boniface included the felling of trees sacred to pagan gods among his higher accomplishments. So did St. Jerome, Bishop Otto and Willebrord. In the year 1000 AD, after the heathen Vikings had been expelled from Dublin, King Brian Boru spent a month destroying the Forest of Thor on the north bank of the Liffey. If this fanatical hatred of trees sounds familiar in our unsuperstitious, industrial society, there's a good reason. Beyond religious zealotry, the motivation that gripped these men (and their modern heirs) was no doubt deeply connected with the transcendent significance trees have always had for humans.

In the indigenous religion of Northern Europe, Asatru, the cosmos was held together by a great ash tree. Asatru is a shamanistic religion (still practiced in Iceland) and the world tree is a shamanistic symbol. It was called Yggdrasill, or Odin's horse, because, as the god rode his eight-legged horse Sleipnir (symbolizing the funeral bier) to the land of the dead in his quest for wisdom, he was actually descending to the roots of Yggdrasill. Here bubbled three springs: Hvergelmir, Wyrd and Mimir's Well. These are probably hypostases of the same idea — the hidden source of fate, Being, the flux that takes back the dead and the force that binds us to life. At the cost of great suffering (impalement on the tree) the shaman god Odin acquires knowledge of these secrets and bestows them on the inhabitants of Middle Earth in the form of runes. Thus the world tree establishes order and makes it comprehensible to humanity.

These motifs are familiar to Fino-Ugric, Amerind and other peoples who practice shamanism. And they aren't fanciful. Trees do partake of the sky, Middle Earth and the underground; they do hold together the network of life as we know it.

Perhaps this helps explain why Northern European, North Asian and American tribes avoided the deforestation their southern kin caused. At any rate, the absolutist states of the Mediterranean had little regard for trees. There were sacred groves in Greece and Rome, but these were mostly left-overs of fertility cults that had ceased to represent a way of life by historical times. Among the Sumerians and Babylonians, competition for lumber reduced forests to the status of war-spoil; and in *Gilgamesh*, they were appropriately populated by fierce demons like Humbaba. The Judeo-Christian tradition makes a tree the source, or at least the material cause, of evil in the world. To wag some of the useless knowledge of Medieval history I've acquired over the years let me note that in patristic writings the cross was often called a tree, which purportedly stood at the center of the world at Calvary, in exactly the same location where the tree of good and evil grew in prelapsarian times. An anti-Yggdrasill, so to speak.

It's no coincidence that these ideas were part of slave states, empires, theocracies. Absolutist cultures require their participants to become one-dimensional, committed to the status-quo as the only reality. While standing right in their midst, a tree is a living symbol of the multi-dimensionality of existence, of historicity, change.

This is the point of contact with the modern cult of tree-cutters. To use Roland Barthe's phrase, "the universe of discourse," the realm of critical ideas which deny or doubt the acceptable facts, must be closed down or narrowed by industrial society for that society to sustain and reproduce itself. The utopian nature of Deep Ecology's world view stems not from any lack of realism on its part, but from the degree to which the universe of discourse has been narrowed.

The current global attack on trees is by nature totalitarian. It replaces the wilderness that freely yields the means of existence with a central authority which dispenses food, water, power, etc., in exchange for labor — the labor that keeps the prerequisites of this authority intact. And beyond that, it is cosmically totalitarian — an attack on the world tree, our connectedness with Earth, our sense of *place* — in order to limit the universe of discourse to the propagation of technological control. Lousiana Pacific and the Forest Service are not just cutting down trees; they're cutting us off from a meaningful world.

There's a passage in the *Elder Edda* which says that after the Twilight of the Gods, after the frost giants have stormed Asgard, after the worlds perish in flame and flood, a man and a woman who have been sheltered by the world tree will emerge from their leafy bower and inherit a new, green earth cleansed of the monsters who wielded chaos.

Let's not wait that long.

Christoph Manes is an expert on Old English, Middle English and Norse Literature, and an ecologist who contributes regularly to our journal.

Towards an Integrated Approach to Population and Justice

by Bill McCormick

The conclusions drawn by Francis Moore Lappe and Joseph Collins in their book, *Food First* (1977), have been heralded by a wide range of groups within the "progressive" movement. In fact, its acceptance has become so great that its findings have almost become a part of the mythology of the progressive movement. Yet it is time we challenge some of their assumptions before they become any more sacred than they are now.

The widespread acceptance of *Food First* has had positive effects. They challenged ideas that needed to be challenged. On the issue of the grip of multinational corporations on the so-called "Third World," and the monstrous inequities and maldistribution of goods that exist as a result of this, they made a mountain out of a mountain. But on the issue of population growth they made a molehill out of a mountain.

It is tempting to say that Lappe and Collins totally discount the population factor, as suggested by their remark on page 71: "Already with the few facts we have presented in this first section, it should be clear that 'too many people' is not the cause of hunger. 'Too many people' is an illusion growing out of increasingly concentrated control of resources. The specter of overpopulation arises as more and more people are severed from control over and participation in the production process."

But a few pages earlier they seem to contradict this with a welcome admission of the obvious: "Because some might misinterpret our words, suggesting that we discount the problem of rapid population growth, we must be absolutely clear. We are not saying that the continuing expansion of global population at the current rate is not a problem. We are saying that neither population growth nor the size of today's population is now the cause of hunger. Continuing to grow at current rates will certainly undercut the future well-being of all of us. That is self-evident. But this self-evident truth adds, for us, even greater urgency to our search for the real causes of rapid population growth."

They explain their thesis thusly: [It has been suggested] "that the real cause of rapid population growth is ignorance — that people do not grasp that fewer children would be in their own best interest. We disagree. When sociologists go to the root causes of large family patterns among the poor in underdeveloped countries, time after time, they find that the poor are acting quite rationally. By having many children, poor peasants are fulfilling two absolute survival needs that the socioeconomic system fails to provide: the need for sufficient income and the need for security in their old age.

"In many parts of the world, the birth rate is pushed up by the efforts of families to have several children, especially sons. As long as families are forced to compete with each other for food, the number of children in each family will largely determine its capacity to survive. For if the family is landless, its income depends on the number of children who can be hired out to work the fields of others. And if the family works as a sharecropper, the more children it has, the more land it will be able to work."

What stands out here is the assertion that: "By having many children . . . the poor are acting quite rationally." On this point I emphatically disagree. To emphasize my disagreement, I cite this quotation from a Mexican woman taken from Perdita Huston's book, *Third World Women Speak Out*: "I am 55 years old, and those years have not been good. I didn't even have shoes . . . . I didn't have anything at all, just the fifteen children. But only seven of my children are still living. The other eight died when they were babies. I think it was because of the hunger. I was very weak while nursing them because we never had enough to eat . . . . I don't understand why God put me here."

Such suffering is impossible to understand for someone like myself who has the fortune of living in the First World. My reason for juxtiposing this quotation with that of Lappe and Collins is this: The situation is not as clear-cut as they make it to be. It is not rational or responsible to go on having children when they are born into a hostile environment where they will either die at an early age or live on the brink of starvation. While the situation is clearly unjust, and I am not suggesting that population control should be a substitute for justice, ought one to encourage others to function as if they are living in an optimum child-bearing situation when clearly they are not? We should not advocate a global policy that focuses only on the multinational corporations' exploiting of the Third World while discounting the problem of overpopulation.

There are also serious problems with the following defusing of the infamous "population bomb" by Lappe and Collins: "Because of the way the population bomb has been thrown into the people's consciousness, one is convinced that the poor are multiplying faster than ever. In reality, at least eleven underdeveloped countries are undergoing an even more precipitous decline in their birth rates than did any of the now industrialized countries, including the US, during their 'demographic transition' of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Seventy-two out of 82 underdeveloped countries showed a decrease in birth rates between 1960 and 1970. Seventeen of these declines were quite significant — at least ten fewer births per thousand.

"These trends, added to the slowing rate of population growth in certain industrial countries, mean that the annual increment in world population has dropped in the last few years. In 1970 the growth in world population, that is, the excess of births over deaths, was 69 million. By 1975 the increase was probably closer to 64 million. When one considers that the number of people of reproductive age is still getting larger each year, this drop in the annual increment is impressive. The rate of world population growth appears to have reached an all time high around 1970 and has since begun to subside."

This quote suggests that the "population explosion" was something that worried people once, but that the situation is well in hand now. Although Lappe and Collins talk about going to the roots of the problem, when they talk about the population problem they cite only secondary factors. So, let's talk figures.

According to the *World Almanac*, in the year 1 AD there were 300 million humans on the planet. By 1900 this increased to 1.6 billion; in 1950: 2.5 billion; in 1970: 3.575 billion; in 1978: 4.2 billion; and this year the population reached 5 billion. According to a chart in *Encyclopedia Brittanica*, allowing for minimum and maximum trends, by the year 2000 there will be 5.4 to 7 billion people on the globe; and by 2050, 8.5 to 13.5 billion.

Lappe and Collins conveniently failed to cite this information or the fact that while it took all of known time for the human population to reach one billion, it only took about 90 years to reach the second, 30 to reach the third, and 15 years to reach the fourth. So while it may be true that the rate of population increase has slowed somewhat, the overall population continues to show hitherto unwitnessed growth.

Lest I be accused of blaming the poor for the population problem, let me add that major problems are resulting from the increasing population density in our own country. It has been estimated that before the first wave of white settlers, there were less than a million people living in the area now known as the United States. The estimated population of the US in 1984 was 240 million. The population growth over the last 400 years has produced an incredible complexity of problems, not only to our external environment, but to our psyches as well.

As for the other "super-power," in his book, *Russian Expansion on the Pacific*, F.A. Golder shows that the European Russians followed many of the same genocidal practices on the native populations to their east as we did in this country. Then there is the thesis that most wars are started by densely populated countries seeking new land to colonize, such as was the case with Germany and Japan during World War II. And is it any wonder that Europe, the most densely populated and developed area on Earth, has been the scene of so many major wars over the last century? The question I raise is this: Is it appropriate to consider any modern social problem without considering population density as a serious factor, not an insignificant one as it is treated by Lappe and Collins in *Food First*.

In an excellent book edited by William Oltmans called *On Growth*, anthropologist Claude Levi-Strauss has this to say: ". . . we have only to look at the figures in the reports to be convinced of it — life will become — if it is not already in many places . . . unbearable only because of the sheer number of people. I don't think it is only a problem of human resources, of finding enough food to nourish I don't know how many billions of people. Even if this problem was solved — I doubt very much that it can, but even if it were solved — it would not molify in any way the fact that there is for (human)kind as for every living species an optimum density . . . What is taking place now . . . is that people are getting so close together . . . that each of them becomes a threat and hindrance to (their) fellow beings."

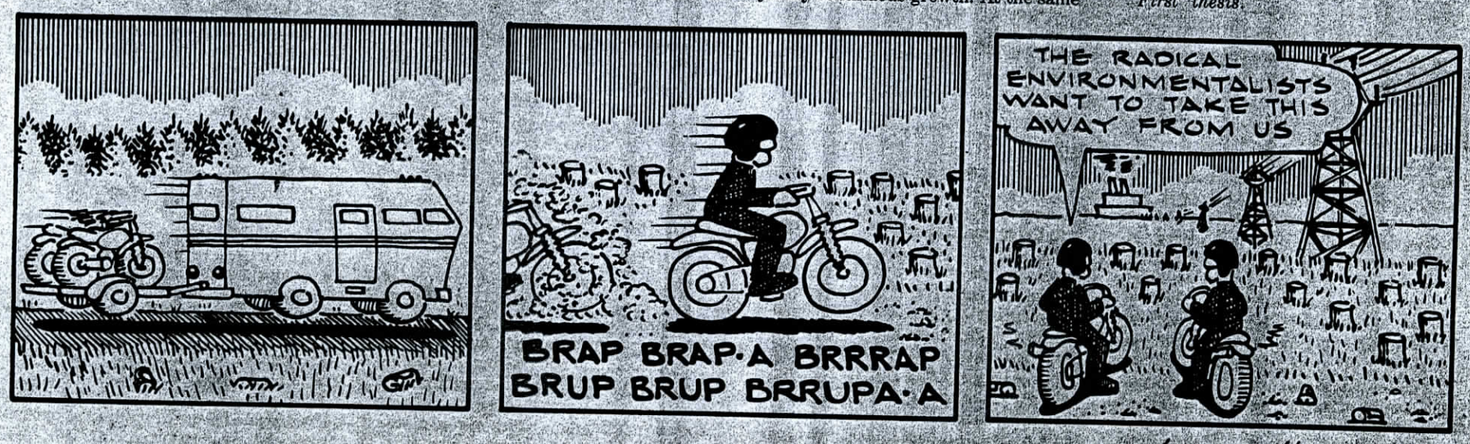
In their book Lappe and Collins seem to say: Take care of the economic roots of exploitation and the maldistribution of food resources, and the population problem will take care of itself. This is a dangerously narrow approach and plays into the hands of those who want to justify continuous growth. At the same time we should avoid the opposite extreme, such as advocated by Garrett Hardin — who is quoted on page 6 of *Food First* to the effect that since there is not enough to go around, we in the First World ought to let poor countries starve to protect ourselves. Such statements from Hardin and others have done more to set back the cause of rational and compassionate population control than all of its opponents combined, as they serve as a rallying point for pro-natalist forces wanting to paint advocates of birth control as racists. Given the number of places I have seen Hardin quoted to this effect, I would say the pro-natalist forces have been successful. Yet, just because I do not believe the world's population ought to continue growing, or that two-thirds of Earth's population ought to live in poverty, or that 15 million children ought to starve to death each year does not make me an racist. It is in the best interest of everyone that we begin immediately to have fewer children, and that we think seriously about how to take care of those that are already starving.

Certainly we ought to take the advice of Lappe and Collins and vigorously oppose economic injustice and the exploitation of others. But at the same time we must recognize the population explosion as a fundamental cause of suffering. Unfortunately, some people tell us that Earth could easily support more people. Jacqueline Kasun, professor of economics at Humboldt State in California, has said that the planet's present population could easily fit within the boundaries of Texas, and that the planet could support 35 to 100 billion people before it reached the breaking point. (See her essay in the book *The Zero People*.) The absurdity and cruelty of such "Large is Beautiful" views is so obvious as to not merit comment, but I mention them as an example of the lunatic thinking that goes on in some pro-natalist circles. If you have read what Hitler said about large numbers of people being infinitely easier to manipulate than individuals, you have an idea of what such a world might be like.

To conclude, by attempting to avoid the extremes at either side of the population debate, I advocate a dual approach to the issue, and urge the reversal of the population explosion at the same time that we live simpler lives and fight the economic injustice that causes our Third World sisters and brothers to live in utter misery. Only this integrated approach to population and justice can stop our global march toward the edge of the precipice.

Bill McCormick considers himself something of an anarchist and humanitarian ecologist, and hopes to see increasing cooperation between traditional progressive movements and the Deep Ecology movement.

Editor's note: Although we do not necessarily agree with McCormick's criticism of Hardin, we do think this essay deserves reading because of its very good critique of the absurd "Food First" thesis.



REVIEWS

THE GRIZZLY IN THE SOUTHWEST; David E. Brown; U. of OK Press, Norman, OK; 1985; 274pp.; $19.95, cloth.

The following review, by Doug Peacock, has been long forthcoming. Doug wrote it long ago but felt guilty for saying anything negative about such a well-intended book. Doug feels the book has major flaws but is a noble effort. He told us, "Criticizing it is like saying that one's children are ugly; it may be true but it simply shouldn't be said."

The Grizzly in the Southwest is gone. Not just "threatened" as the big bear is in other parts of the lower 48, but — for all practical purposes — extinct. Suitable habitat remains. Yet the odds of Arizona, New Mexico or Colorado ever again seeing a wild Grizzly are slim.

This useful work by David Brown comes to us as a historical study with implications for wildlife management. Brown pulls together a wide range of documents, early reports of federal trappers, interviews, anecdotes and historical photos which yield the most complete account assembled of the extermination of the Grizzly in the Southwest.

In these pages, the now tame landscapes of today's Southwest spring back to life as the idea of a 500 pound carnivore leaps into the imagination. Among the most haunting of bear tales are Brown's accounts of hunters, men like Ben Lilly, skilled in the wilderness but without a vision of the future — the sad, familiar story of men who hastened the demise of the only life they knew.

It was, Brown shows, the livestock industry in the Southwest that did in the Grizzly. Too many outfits ran too many cows into every last niche until, shortly after the turn of the century, no ungrazed sanctuary for bears remained. For small ranches, the loss of even a single cow or sheep to predators bordered on economic disaster. All conflicts were resolved against the bear.

Brown uses insights from a background in wildlife management to show that the primary predator in the Southwest was not the bear but rather sheep and cattle who ate all the succulent grasses with constituted the bulk of the Grizzly's diet. By the time anyone questioned whether we should save a few, the Grizzly was already on its way out in the Southwest. Brown sums up the mood of wildlife agents in the 1920s with this prophetic sentence: "His latter numbers appear to have been overestimated, and he was gone before anyone believed it."

This dangerous bureaucratic tendency — to overestimate numbers of Grizzlies to reflect favorably the mandate of the agency involved (NPS, USFWS, FS, or state game departments), protectionism on the part of the National Park Service and hunting for the Fish and Game Departments — still prevails today. In Yellowstone Park, officials have been telling us for over a decade we have 350 Grizzlies; it is now clear that the Yellowstone ecosystem has fewer than 200 bears and that population is declining. The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks released an EIS in November to justify their hunt of Grizzlies in the Northern Continental Divide Grizzly Bear Ecosystem, the so-called Bob Marshall ecosystem. They initially state the facts: there is no data to suggest population size, trend or stability in northwestern Montana. Yet they then make extrapolations with little basis in reality; and they manage — in this case hunt—on the basis of these abstractions. Aldo Leopold's statement, that relegating the Grizzly to Alaska is like relegating happiness to heaven, may come back to haunt us. As the data trickles in from British Columbia and Alaska, it appears we are making the same mistakes, but faster, up there — overestimating populations and overhunting.

The misgivings I have with Brown's book arise from the moral tone left by the conventional wisdom of wildlife management, a profession whose views Brown accurately reflects. Wildlife management in America is a business as much as a science, rooted in Christian dominion, male dominated and still in the process of sorting out "good" animals from "bad" ones, with whose balance we endlessly tinker.

Thus we are offered a racist remark by a New Mexican rancher as a representation of why the reintroduction of Grizzlies there is, at best, a long shot. This crack ("I felt like my daughter just married a n—."), which many ranchers would find offensive, is as indicative of the Good-Ol-Boy tradition of game management as it is of rednecks or cowboys. (Some thinkers suggest that such intolerance — either of other races or cultures of people or of big, fierce critters like bears — is related.)

Brown thinks the last Grizzly in the Southwest was killed in Colorado in 1979, and he dismisses reports of a Grizzly in Mexico. His certainty is supported by meager experience: in 1982 he found none. As with Western science, a valid system within its own dictates, we are offered what is found as opposed to what might be there. Recently, in northern Mexico, I saw convincing sign that at least one Grizzly was alive in the Sierra Madre as late as 1984. In Colorado, an extensive search and a trapping program found no Grizzlies after 1979; yet I have heard strong evidence by reliable field workers of a few Grizzlies left in southwestern Colorado. Of course, these are not viable populations, only last bears. It's no accident the last Grizzlies in an ecosystem can't be trapped; they didn't survive until now by being careless and conventional.

Brown's Western science bias creeps into an otherwise laudatory discussion on reintroduction of the Grizzly. Brown divides bears into categories of "wild bear" versus "park bear" and "man-adapted bears" versus "the wrong bears" — lumpings which are supported by no scientific data. This good bear/park bear dichotomy is derived from an assumption, never proven, often voiced by game managers, that hunting or otherwise harvesting and culling Grizzlies makes them shier, more manageable and better animals.

Still, this discussion of the reintroduction of Grizzlies is what gives flesh and blood to a framework of historical material. As John Craighead once stated: "The requisite technology (for reintroducing Grizzlies) is available; the legal, social, political, economic and philosophical requirements are not." In other words, the agencies have been too chickenshit; they feel they have enough problems without the considerable liabilities of Grizzly Bears.

The federal Recovery Plan for the "Threatened" Grizzly in the lower 48, prepared by that politically sensitive agency, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, doesn't even mention the Southwest. To Brown's credit, he still hopes the Southwest may again see the great bears. Indeed, there are few fields of natural science half as political as so-called Grizzly Bear biology. Whatever data you collect or studies you complete remain forever secondary to the political alliances you make or the bureaucratic power you consolidate.

Based on considerations which are biological but also political and cultural, Brown's candidates for reintroduction of Grizzlies to the Southwest come from the Rocky Mountain Front of Montana. The Front, a deadly place for bears until the ban of the predacide 1080 in 1972 and the glut of the international sheep industry, again has Grizzlies with a high reproductive rate — partly in response to the bear-empty habitat and continued high man-caused mortality there. Brown hopes these "man-adapted" Grizzlies would make good transplants, for reasons which roughly parallel the argument that hunting and otherwise culling bears teaches them something.

I agree with Brown that we should use "surplus" Grizzlies from the Rocky Mountain Front for reintroduction or augmenting dwindling populations elsewhere, but I don't agree with Brown's reasons. Why hunt a species listed under the Endangered Species Act when those Grizzlies are desperately needed in places like the Cabinets (MT)? Also, this process of habituation of the Grizzlies, or adapting to humans, is far from a uniform or predictable experience. Grizzlies are utterly individualistic; some Grizzlies are so intolerant of humans or other bears that they never visit garbage dumps or salmon streams even when such habituation serves vital nutritional needs. After having reduced the great bear's numbers and range by 99% in the lower states in less than 150 years, we are a long way from knowing what part of Grizzly preference is learned; what is inherited; and how much, if any, change has occurred in the genetic make-up which affects behavior.

New Mexico's Aldo Leopold Wilderness — priority site for Griz reintroduction. Photo by Dave Foreman.

Perhaps we can't have our cake and eat it too; we might have to take the Grizzlies, if we want them back, as they are — as a risky proposition not particularly manageable or human-shy. Reintroduction anywhere might require a real leap of faith.

Fifty years ago we blew away the last Grizzly here in Arizona because he didn't conform to our idea of what a useful animal should be — one we could control without stretching our minds or changing our lives much. So what's new?

Reviewed by Doug Peacock. Doug has probably spent more time studying and dodging Grizzlies in the real wilderness than any other living American.

THE MODERN CRISIS; Murray Bookchin; 1986; 182 pp.; New Society Publishers, 4722 Baltimore Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19143; $7.95 paper plus $1.50 postage.

Murray Bookchin's latest book is perhaps his clearest, most concise book-length discussion of modern crises and social ecology — a discipline to deal with these crises which is at least similar to, if not a subset of, Deep Ecology. *The Modern Crisis* ranges in quality from turgid and abstruse to brilliant and revolutionary. Although Bookchin frequently violates one of the fundaments of writing — "Eschew surplusage" (Mark Twain) — this book as much as his others presents convincing analyses of the ecological and social crises we face and begins to sketch a compelling ecological vision of a better world. It is worth briefly outlining here some of the ideas in *The Modern Crisis*, especially since *EF!* has recently printed several articles dealing indirectly with Bookchin and his anarchistic views.

Bookchin could be labeled an anarchist, libertarian, and social ecologist. He uses history, anthropology, and zoology to show that — contrary to prevailing world views — nature is not hierarchical and that human societies — which originally evolved naturally and were not dualistically opposed to nature — for much of their history tended to be healthy ecological egalitarian communities. Bookchin hopes that social ecology can guide us to an integration of the healthy qualities of such primal societies with the unrealized potential of modern society. A few quotes will help explain social ecology and the problems social ecology seeks to overcome.

". . . As a social ecologist, I see nature as essentially creative, directive, mutualistic, fecund, and marked by complementarity, not 'mute,' 'blind,' 'cruel,' 'stingy,' or 'necessitarian.' This shift in focus from a marketplace to an ecological image of nature obliges me to challenge the time-honored notion that the domination of human by human is necessary in order to 'dominate nature.' In emphasizing how meaningless this rationale for hierarchy and domination is, I conclude — with considerable historical justification, which our own era amply illuminates with its deployment of technology primarily for purposes of social control — that the idea of dominating nature stems from human domination, initially in hierarchical forms as feminists so clearly understand, and later in class and statist forms.

"Accordingly, my ecological image of nature leads me to drastically redefine my conception of economics, sociology, psychology, and even socialism, which, ironically, advance a shared dualistic gospel of a radical separation of society from nature even as they rest on a militant imperative to 'subdue' nature . . ." (71)

Other parts of chapter 2, "What Is Social Ecology?," include fascinating discussions on our perversely negative understanding of nature, and on the popular notion of evolution — which Bookchin considers to be based to an excessive extent upon individualism and competition.

Bookchin has important words of warning for greens, environmentalists and deep ecologists. Bookchin warns that ecologists who deny the uniqueness of human beings tend toward eco-fascism. The following quotes may indicate a lack of appreciation for Deep Ecology or remnants of anthropocentrism in Bookchin's thought, but his warnings contain at least grains of truth and should be heeded.

"This biological or organic way of thinking — which in no way conflicts with the proper use of mechanical or analytical forms of thought but rather encompasses them — is strangely lacking in many socially oriented schools of ecology. I still encounter schools which tend simply to inventory energy on one side and 'matter' on an opposing side instead of deriving the latter from the former. Similarly, biocentric values are opposed to anthropocentric, the objective world of things is opposed to the subjective world of ideas, the strictly natural is opposed to the strictly social. We would do well to ask if they are in conflict with, or reducible to, each other — indeed, if we are thinking about them in a thoroughly rounded manner when we render them so one-sidedly and simplistically. Even the 'horrid' words 'anthropocentricity' and 'humanism,' so disdained these days by many socially oriented ecologists, raise the question of whether human beings have their own special place in nature with all their uniqueness and their own distinctive contribution to the whole.

"We are very much in need of organic, more precisely, really dialectical ways of process-thinking that seek out the potentiality of a later form in an earlier one, that seek out the 'forces' that impel the latter to give rise to the former, and that absorb the notion of process into truly evolutionary ways of thought about the world. Until this organic mode of thought is brought to ecophilosophy and applied in a sensitive, richly nuanced, and rounded manner, our attempts to reflect deeply on ecological problems will tend to be painfully superficial and incomplete." (14-15)

Later Bookchin writes: "Much depends on the level of consciousness such a green movement attains. If it confines itself to evocations of the 'simple life,' with a 'biocentricity' that ignores humanity's own unique potentialities, an 'anti-humanism' that denies what we can be as human beings in the larger world of life, or an anti-rationalism that ignores the organic nature of dialectical reason because it fears the narrow analytic and

instrumental reason so prevalent today, then the continuum of the past decades will be broken and this great development of the time in all its phases will be aborted." (46-47)

Bookchin challenges many within the environmental movement with the following warning to ecologists: "Organismic philosophies can surely yield totalitarian, hierarchical, and eco-fascistic results. We have good reason to be concerned over so-called nature philosophies that give us the notion of *Blut und Boden* and 'dialectical materialism,' which provide the ideological justification for the horrors of Nazism and Stalinism. We have good reason to be concerned over a mysticism that yields social quietism at best and the aggressive activism of reborn Christianity and certain Asian gurus at worst. We have even better reason to be concerned over the eco-fascism of Garrett Hardin's 'lifeboat ethic' with its emphasis on scarce resources and the so-called tragedy of the commons, an ethic which services genocidal theories of imperialism and a global disregard for human misery . . . ." (74-75)

In chapter 1, "Rethinking Ethics, Nature, and Society," Bookchin warns that not only environmentalism but almost all isms and so-called radical movements have fallen into the trap of thinking in terms of, and using the language of, technological society and the market economy. Chapter 3, "Market Economy or Moral Economy" probes further into the evils of the market economy and constrasts this with the possibility of an ecological and communal economy. Ever quick to note the flaws in his fellow radicals, Bookchin warns that even organic farmers and food co-ops tend to fall into the market economy trap, for they place too much emphasis on efficiency and not enough on mutually beneficial trades.

In the last chapter (4, "An Appeal for Social and Ecological Sanity") Bookchin suggests that achieving the aims of social ecology in the US depends upon utilizing the democratic ideals and institutions — corrupt though they have become — of the revolutionary founders of this country, minus the negative aspects such as their patriarchal qualities. Indeed, Bookchin says, only our republican institutions and separation of political powers have kept the US from committing even worse international atrocities — such as openly invading Central America — than we have already committed. In discussing the common enemy of all counter-culture movements — domination — Bookchin gives one of his clearest explanations of social ecology:

"Domination, be it of nature or human beings, thus unites the great themes of our times: feminism, ecologism, alternative technologies, peace, material security, self-empowerment, community, holistic health, mutual aid, and a sensibility of respect for human beings of all ages and ethnic backgrounds. All are united into a common and coherent focus which we may best call social ecology in its broader theoretical aspects and libertarian populism in its function as a new social practice . . . ." (122)

This condemnation of domination perhaps points to a fundamental difference between the anarchism of Bookchin and the opposition to anarchism of Andrew Schmookler. While Bookchin sees centralized authority as a form of domination and a disruption of the peace that would prevail in natural decentralized communities, Schmookler sees centralized authority as necessary to stop the tyranny of a minority from creating war and chaos.

To conclude, Murray Bookchin is one of the most important thinkers of our time, and social ecology is potentially one of the most important movements of our time. Indeed, social ecologists and deep ecologists agree on far more than they differ and their movements could well be united. Read the best introduction to Bookchin and social ecology — *The Modern Crisis*.

Reviewed by Australopithecus.

CAT TRACKS

by Chim Blea

The Question of Babies

For many years of my life, I never felt the slightest desire for parenthood. Don't get me wrong — I don't *hate* children (like I do dogs). In fact, I find a certain distant pleasure in my nephews and nieces. But nephews and nieces are like television. You can dally with them for a little while until you grow bored (a few minutes in my case) and then switch them off. You aren't stuck with the little rug rats for long.

With this attitude, then, I was surprised by a feeling I found prowling inside my skull box some nine or ten years ago. It was night and I was alone. The empty western freeway stretched away without beginning or end. There was no moon. No topography. I was surrounded by blackness. I usually enjoy such solitudinous midnight journeys. One never knows what ghosts may join one. In this case the ghost was a little girl. My little girl. She would have been eight at that time if she had indeed become. But she hadn't. I'd never regretted the abortion that had prevented her being. And I don't regret it today. But I regretted it that night. Somewhere in the DNA coiled deep within my cells, a scrap of a gene — called parenthood — which until that time I had believed I did not possess, edged itself into my consciousness and brought me the apparition of a little girl. It filled me with sorrow. I haven't had contact with my partner in that unfortunate adventure for many years and I am sterile now, thanks to the surgeon's knife. Today, I don't regret that abortion or my sterilization several years later. I did not want children then. I do not want children now. But that night, that empty night on the desert ten years ago, when the ghost of that little girl, *my* little girl, sat with me in my car and looked with her big brown eyes into mine, I knew for the first time why people want children. Misanthrope though I may be, I will never forget it.

I tell you about this precious ghost not to assuage any guilt for my part in that ancient abortion but because she many have served to dampen my strong feelings about too many human beings on this fair planet. Beautiful, enchanting, and haunting though that darling specter may have been, my views on overpopulation remain. There are too many of us.

I will not go into the statistics of the population bomb. I will not review the Ehrlich-Commoner debate on population vs. pollution. There *are* too many of us. No one can dispute the fact that if we were fewer we would have less impact on Earth and other life forms. If you can step beyond the beautiful eyes of my little ghost, think for a moment about what every additional human child really means (and remember that the impact of each of our middle-class babies is equivalent to that of forty in the Third World): More old-growth timber clearcut, increased grazing pressures on marginal grasslands, another irrigation project drowning a desert river to farm another virgin valley, an oil pad and drill rig in a remote wildland with a dusty access road, another sterile jungle clearing to play the ghastly "green revolution" game, more poison in our seas choking our finny fellow citizens, more minerals ripped out of their natural place in the Earth and transformed into tawdry goods . . . .

If these images do not touch you as they touch me, think then that every baby born is another to starve with a bloated belly in Ethiopia, to bleed as a stray .223 caliber slug tumbles through her tiny body in Central America, to live in horror on the streets of Bombay, to escape the plastic loveless world of LA with drugs when she's fifteen and lonely, to wither with radiation. Not only do our babies cause the Earth to suffer, but they will suffer themselves. Because of hunger, oppression, disease and war. Because human society, psychology and politics are in chaos. Because human population will soon be drastically leveled one way or another. Because there are too many of us.

Think before you have that baby. One more to cause suffering. One more to suffer. Have your tubal ligation, your vasectomy now. Now. Before you are haunted by the little girl you didn't have. Or had.

This is a slightly revised reprint of one of Chim Blea's columns from 1982.

Boston Eyes New England's Largest River

by Robert Streeter

Boston has a long and controversial history of reaching westward for clean water, usually because local sources were no longer enough and/or were too polluted to drink. Most residents of rural western Massachusetts have felt for years that the creation of Quabbin Reservoir during the 1930s was the final insult their countryside would have to bear from a resource hungry Boston.

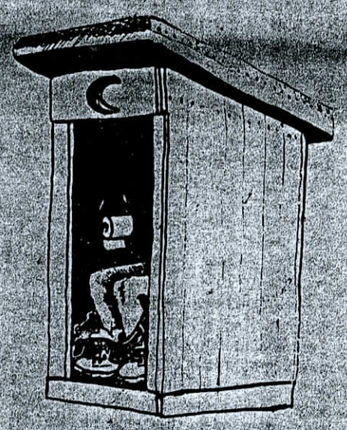
At midnight on April 27, 1938, the towns of Dana, Enfield, Greenwich, and Prescott, Massachusetts, officially ceased to exist in the valley of the Swift River. An act of legislation had doomed the Swift River and 40 square miles of the four towns, all with the intent of creating Quabbin Reservoir. By 1939 the valley was ready to receive the water.

Gone were 2500 people and 650 homes. The dead were also gone; almost 8000 bodies were removed from cemeteries. Buildings were demolished or moved to other towns, 1040 buildings in all. The valley was totally cleared below the expected water line, including every tree.

For the next seven years the valleys of the East, West, and Middle branches of the Swift River were flooded, and 'Quabbin,' an Indian word meaning 'Many Waters,' was created. A watershed of 87 square miles became isolated from human habitation, and Boston had and continues to have the largest man-made domestic water supply reservoir in the world. But they want more. Now they're looking at the Connecticut River, New England's largest, with a proposal that calls for diverting 63 million gallons a day of the Class B river water into the Class A waters of Quabbin, via a huge pipeline.

"They" are the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA), a state-created but autonomous agency that functions as the purveyor of water and sewer service to over two million people in eastern Massachusetts. MWRA recently released a report which considered the diversion plan (a plan born during a late 1960s drought) as one of nine options under consideration to increase metropolitan Boston's water supply. They claim a need for 420 million daily gallons by the year 2020, and Quabbin's "safe yield" is 300 million. But here's the catch: Nearly one-third of the water taken from Quabbin is unaccounted for. Critics of MWRA say it would be cheaper and more environmentally sound to fix leaky pipes and increase water rates and enact mandatory conservation measures. (Industry nationwide uses 200 billion gallons a day compared to 20 billion consumed by residential users, so you can see who profits from huge water projects.)

View from the Outhouse



MWRA held their first public hearing in June for feedback on the report. It's still not clear which option MWRA will pursue, but 500 people attended the hearing in Northampton to tell them which option they ought to avoid. "You are living in a fantasy land if you think that even one drop of water will be diverted from the Connecticut, the Millers, or the Tully rivers," said state Rep. Carmen Buell, D-Greenfield. She also warned of "massive revolution," which brought a roar of approval from the crowd that included residents of Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Connecticut Attorney General Joseph Leiberman threatened to go all the way to the US Supreme Court. "I come here tonight to tell you respectfully — but unequivocally — that we will not permit this to happen. The Connecticut River is not a pipeline to service Boston." But perhaps the finest statement came from state Rep. William Nagle, D-Northampton, who said with an Earth First! gleam in his eyes, "Any attempt at diversion will yield subversion in western Massachusetts." Amen.

Write: Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, Charlestown Navy Yard, 100 1st Ave., Boston, MA 02129. Strongly oppose *any* diversion plans, and advocate strict conservation measures and the fixing of leaky pipes in the present system.

. . . Me (cont)

scious me. I work at living in the moment — sharing my moment by moment feelings — so as to reflect the natural feelingful me. I am acknowledging my past experiences as an authentic process that brought me to now; loving myself; celebrating my deep-felt connections to Mother Earth. I am no longer apologizing to myself or others for those strong feelings. I am releasing tension. Relaxing. Enjoying. Daily renewing my commitment to live lightly on the planet.

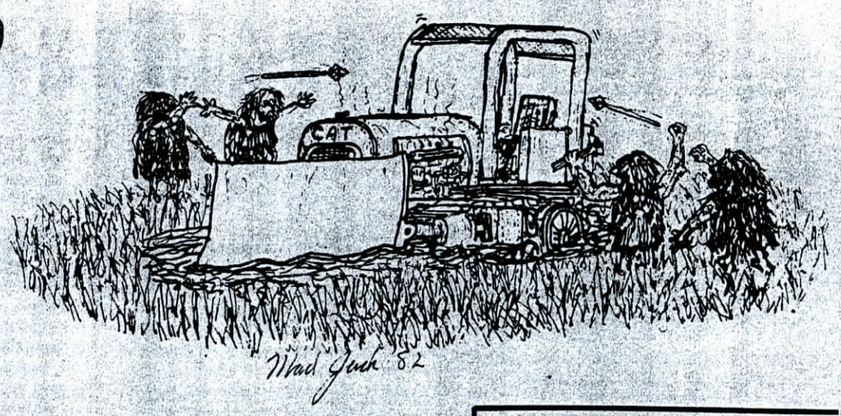
The process can be a painful one. There's an infinite number of fears and prejudices I have been taught to have against my own nature (wilderness). I no more than get one tackled and another one pops up out of somewhere. I'm not even aware of most of them yet I am sure. I wonder how long until I know my own wilderness? How long until I belong here and am no longer an alien? My lifetime? How about you? Are you trying to accept your own wilderness? It seems we could be helping one another in that discovery. We certainly have nothing to lose in the process.

I can only conclude that ultimately, until we preserve the wilderness in ourselves and make our own connections to everything "out there," we are not going to insure wilderness for the future. We stand, all of us, on the brink of extinction.

Coleen Walter has been a part of the National Audubon Society Expedition Institute and lives in Hermosa, South Dakota.

DEAR NED LUDD

DEAR NED LUDD is a regular feature in *Earth First!* for discussion of creative means of effective defense against the forces of industrial totalitarianism. Neither the Earth First! movement nor the staff of *Earth First!* necessarily encourage anyone to do any of the things discussed in DEAR NED LUDD.



Dear Ned Ludd

Old rusty nails give a stronger signal to metal detectors than do new spikes. This fact can be used creatively by any wilderness defender who likes to plan far ahead. If you know an area will be marked for timber sale in five or more years, start to work now. Let some large finishing nails soak for several days in vinegar or coca cola. This starts the oxidation process. Next, introduce them to trees you want to save. Finishing nails are easier to hammer in than full-sized spikes. But after a finishing nail rusts inside the wood for five to ten years, it will register on a metal detector as a much larger object—deeply and securely embedded within the tree.

—Gila Woodpecker

Dear Ned Ludd

Timber fellers rarely carry their chainsaws out of the woods with them. When the workday ends, they usually stash the saw under some brush or in a hollow log.

After you're certain that all the workers have left the area where trees are being felled, locate the saws and supplement their fuel with a mixture of valve grinding compound and 2 cycle oil. This will destroy the saw's engine shortly after it is started.

If the saw's fuel tank is empty, pour your mix into the gas can, which is generally left with the saw. If you pour your mixture into an empty fuel tank on a saw, the chances are that the feller will be suspicious in the morning when he goes to fill his empty tank and finds that it is not entirely empty.

To concoct your mix, add about 1 tablespoon of valve grinding compound to 1/2 pint of 2 cycle oil. Stir and shake vigorously until the compound is mixed to the consistency of the oil.

Use extreme security precautions on this operation. You could very easily be captured. Be especially careful if there has already been any monkeywrenching in the area.

— Paul Bunyan

Ask Ned Ludd

Since we receive a variety of letters with questions on the efficacy of various monkeywrenching techniques, we've decided to begin a new column on this page — **"Ask Ned Ludd."** *Questions sent in will be forwarded to experts who have the technical ability to undertake research and development on new ecotage methods. Of course, no one connected with this column encourages anyone to do anything discussed in it. This is for entertainment purposes only. Ha, ha, ha! So send Ned Ludd c/o the Tucson address your questions and we'll try to answer them. Our opening column deals with previously published questions.*

NAIL GUNS

Recent suggestions for the use of nail guns for speedy tree spiking reveal several possibilities and shortcomings. Perhaps the most practical tool along this line is the nail driver that uses a low-velocity crimped powder charge to drive nails up to three inches in length. If you shop around (remember — pay cash), you can pick up one of these units for between two and three hundred dollars. The three inch nails and powder loads will run thirty dollars per hundred. Although costly, this method is fast. Its primary shortcoming is the noise of the powder charge firing (which is why we can't recommend the high-velocity powder charged tool). Also, astute investigators will check all suppliers in the area to try to locate buyers of the nails and powder loads.

As with all metallic spikes, this method can be foiled by metal detectors (see next item). Because of this, you might consider putting the money into non-metallic spikes or "pins" as described in "Blade Ruiner," unless you work in the construction trades and have another use for the nail gun.

DEFEATING METAL DETECTORS

Ridge Runner's suggestion of using non-magnetic stainless steel spikes to foil metal detectors will, unfortunately, not work as hoped. Most sawmills routinely screen logs for "tramp" metal like nails and old fence wire. They use everything from portable, hand-held detectors to large coils installed on conveyor systems (thousands of these are installed at mills around the country). These detectors will reveal the presence of metals that conduct electricity, including all non-ferrous and non-magentic metals (aluminum, gold, copper, zinc, etc.). Thus far, only the "pins" made from hard rock (like quartz) or high-fired ceramics and inserted into well-concealed drilled holes, can promise a high probability of destroying sawmill blades. (Of course, sometimes it doesn't matter if your spikes are detected — see the separate article.)

Does Spiking Really Save Trees?

by Bruce Spudworm

Amidst all the clamor regarding the morality of tree spiking, a more important question is often neglected: do spikes simply cost the Freddies time and money, or do they save forests? In reviewing past media coverage on the subject, I noticed that Forest Service spokesasses and newspersons (echoing Freddie statements) invariably contended that tree spiking is only an expensive nuisance, that there has never been a case where spiking has terminated the sale or cutting of an area. This opinion is obviously not shared by the editors of *Earth First!* nor those who contribute to the journal and to *Ecodefense*. Certainly both sides have something to gain by claiming success in dealing with a perceived problem, but who really is telling the truth? The answer is probably that both are.

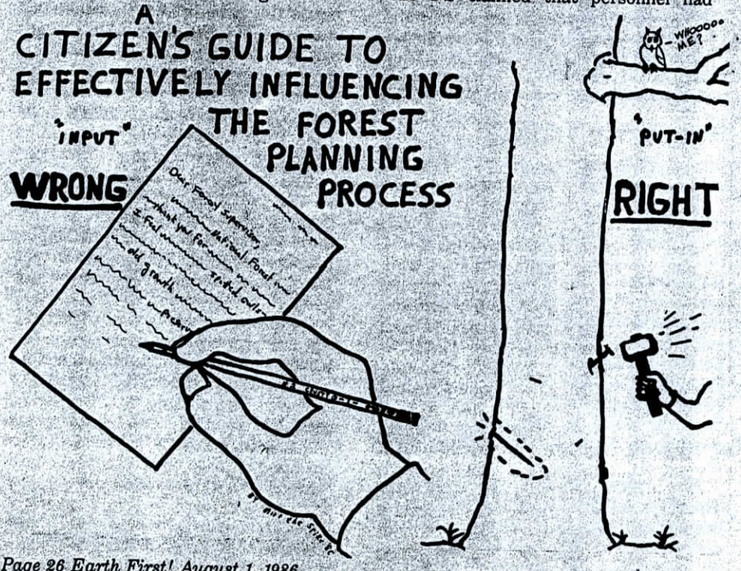
Until now, EF! could only claim that the Freddies only publicized cases of tree spiking when they were able to remove the spikes, while covering up more successful efforts (which we hope are occurring on a large scale) in an attempt to discourage potential spikers. However, we now know of a specific case where, contrary to Forest Circus claims, spiking undeniably saved the trees.

In an article in the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* last April, the Wenatchee National Forest made public the fact that a timber sale in the Icicle Creek drainage had been spiked. (See Litha Edition.) Along with statements of condemnation, the FS claimed that personnel had spent two or three days removing spikes from 80 trees, and that the first phase of cutting was expected to be completed by Memorial Day. Recently, an EF!er spoke with Leavenworth District Ranger Steve Morton and inquired about the trees. The inquiry was met with immediate defensiveness. Morton refused to provide any information on the subject, even when threatened with a Freedom of Information letter, claiming that the matter was under investigation and therefore not open to the public. Morton was kind enough to take a picture of the EF!er, though, no doubt for sentimental reasons.

As it turns out, Morton had good cause to be silent. Further investigation revealed that FS personnel had been working unsuccessfully for weeks to remove the spikes — which supposedly had had their heads clipped off by the spikers leaving nothing for the Freddie crowbars to grab. The media statements had been lies. The trees, which had already been bought when the spiking was publicized, are still standing. The Forest Service was forced to buy them back and has been unable to resell them. There is not a mill in the state willing to risk its equipment on spiked timber.

I believe that the Freddies are able to remove spikes in some situations; and that these cases, though only a small fraction of overall occurrances, are the ones which are publicized. If done properly, tree spiking *is* effective, and if undertaken with appropriate personal protection measures (silence, even among friends, probably being the most important) can be a sustainable tactic in the long term war to save our forests.

Bruce Spudworm is a student of ecology and a threat to the clearcutting industry in the Northwest.



... Me (cont)

about the wilderness, the more I learn about myself.

Recently the Director of the National Audubon Society Expedition Institute, Mike Cohen, challenged me to the idea that the nearest wilderness to myself is the one within me — my own biology and inner nature. Wilderness in me? Can it be true? Why have I made no connections?

When I consider the culture I have grown up in it is no surprise to me that I am unfamiliar with the idea. My culture abhors wilderness; we cut it down, dam it up and pave it over. My culture fears wilderenss and in turn, taught me to fear it. We teach our children to fear it; we teach each other to fear it. There are grizzlies and snakes out there to get us. It's quiet and lonely out there without our electronic music and our technological devices. When it gets dark the night sounds are unfamiliar and scary. The wilderness is a gold mine of ores waiting to be mined in order to give us our people-filled, safe, electric-lit, four-walled, creature-less havens of retreat and alienation. The wilderness is accepted only for what it can give to our human-centered existence. The myth is that if we get rid of it we will be safe at last.

So if the propaganda has been so strong in my upbringing, why is it that I have made attempts to experience the wilderness — to accept it for what it is? I have backpacked in grizzly country. I have felt fear in the night and been grateful for the companionship of my dogs to give me support in my fear. Recently I was able to lay alone in a canyon of the Escalante and long for the mountain lion I had seen just hours before to visit me. In coming face to face with hypothermia I have warmed myself in response to it. And in this questing to understand and accept wilderness, I have found a growing need to preserve it. And I realize now these attempts come from my own struggle for self-preservation. To preserve the wilderness is to preserve me — I am the wilderness/the wilderness is me.

It all starts to make sense. I was told that to know the wilderness you had to go "out there." But here I am considering that there is wilderness in me — right here! Have I treated myself the way the culture has treated the wilderness? I know I have dammed up my emotions, paved over my needs and cut down many attempts to be healthy. I fear things about myself so I hide from them. I don't go to those places in me to discover more about myself. I stay away. I keep to the safe rituals of my life. I fall in with "group think" and become manipulated by my culture. I have allowed the wilderness in me to be exploited.

When I consider Gary Snyder's statement: "Wildness is the state of complete awareness. That's why we need it." I start to understand. Instead of running from my wilderness, fearing it or allowing it to be exploited, I need most to be familiar with it; to know it as a friend; to go there for support; to be in touch with my own roots. I need to accept me as I am, for my own sake.

So how do I transfer all these ideas about my own wilderness into actions? How do I fight my own ultimate environmental battle? I start by removing the make-up from my face that proves to only pave over the beauty that is me; I allow my hair to go its own straight course, vowing to never again perm it thus making me something I am not — curly headed. I begin to explore my dreams so as to learn about the subcon-

continued on page 25

ARMED WITH VISIONS

HUNTERS OF MAMMOTH SAN FRANCISCO

Go thru the concrete.

Enter what is Breathing Here.

Your being on the Great Beach of Dreamtime.
A Pacific Melody,
a melody you are.
Lost in traffic.
Lost in making it.

Come down into the earth you are,
you are a seed.
Now take your partner the rain.

Come up
Tansy Boy, Tansy Girl.

Come up into the sky you are
a wind.

Eye of the Wind:
"See the Owl in flight
alight as the Bay."

Highrise:
"But we've put points on those wings
and made a Bat out of that!"

Highrises standing awhile on Dunes
before they break into their dance
where the Earth Allways Rocks.

Kush
Cloud House

BREAD SONG

Take the yeast
from its cold dry hole

Give it a warm
and sugary bath

It will explode
with the odor of bloom

Dip a wood spoon
into the bowl

shyly at first
then stronger, faster:

you have molded
a being

which you dress
in warm clothing

and set
on a tray

Step back
be quiet

let it breathe
all day

Lynn Manning
from Tellus #9
(Stephen Bunch, editor
1005 Rhode Island
Lawrence, KS 66044)

RING THEM BELLS

Chemical Contamination	No Water
Topsoil Erosion	No Food
Rainforests Falling	No Oxygen
Arms Buildup	No Place to Hide

Which rope, Father, rings the bell of Peace

Jay McIntire
Maine

dark moon rising

this storm breathes ruin
it is past the time for remorse
or repentence
i am the dream stealer
the unmaker, mother of undoing
i raise the dreaded ones
myriad shapes of embodied Fury
children of my monstrous hunger
to unravel the warp of continents
the weft of civilization
i am the wolf at the door
the thorn in your side
the face that turns you to stone
i am the harpy to hound you from your comfort
& sunder your complacency
i am coyote
vulture
& crow
feeders on succulent death

i am many bodies
but one desire:
to feast on the city's sad, violent flesh
there is no tricking me
for i am called FATE and
i cut the thread

. . .

the owl is on the wing
at the end of days

darkfire

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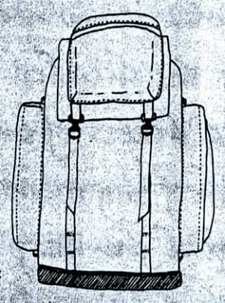

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BACK ISSUES

Yes, back issues of *Earth First!* are available for $2 apiece (to cover our postage and handling expenses). Some of the early issues are already out of print and numbers are running low on others, so order those you wish now.

YULE Dec. 21, 1981 (Vol. II, No. II) First Earth First! Road Show; Oil Leasing in Wilderness Areas; EF! Preserve System; Many early photos of Earth First!.

BRIGID Feb. 2, 1982 (Vol. II, No. III) Earth First! by Dave Foreman (reprinted from *The Progressive*); letters from *Progressive* readers; Oil Leasing in Wilderness Areas.

EOSTAR March 20, 1982 (Vol. II, No. IV) Mardie Murie Interview; Canyonlands Nuke Dump; EF! meeting in Eugene.

BELTANE May 1, 1982 (Vol. II, No. V) Little Granite Creek Drilling Controversy; GO Road; John Crowell; Western Civilization by Chim Blea; Monkeywrenching Seismo Crews; Jail: A Primer.

LITHA June 21, 1982 (Vol. II, No. VI) Little Granite Creek; Moab Roads a BLM WSA; Chim Blea on Babies; Dinkey Creek & McKinley Sequoias; What To Do as an EF!er; Caribou in Maine.

LUGHNASADH Aug. 1, 1982 (Vol. II, No. VII) Rendezvous at Little Granite Creek; Dustrud Resigns as *EF!* Editor; Gary Snyder on Violence; Canyonlands Nuke Dump; Little Granite Survey Stakes Pulled.

SAMHAIN Nov. 1, 1982 (Vol. III, No. I) BLM Rotten in Utah by Clive Kincaid; Ed Abbey on Books & Gurus; Bob Marshall's 1927 Inventory of Big Wilderness; Dear Ned Ludd/Closing Roads; Foreman Runs for Sierra Club Board; Mama Rue on Samhain; Bill Devall on Nuclear War; Foreman on Endangered Species & Wilderness; How To Do An EF! Wilderness Proposal.

EOSTAR March 21, 1983 (Vol. III, No. III) Franklin River Blockade in Australia; Salt Creek Blockade; GO Road and Bald Mt Road; Chim Blea on Domestication; Howie Wolke on RARE III; Bisti Circus; Deciduous Forest Ecosystem Preserve; Nightcap Blockade Photos (Australia); EF! White Cloud Wilderness Proposal(Idaho); Ned Ludd/Cutting Torch; Howie Wolke on the Wilderness Act; Road Show Diary; EF! in Sonora; Spurs Jackson on Books; Ed Abbey on The Big Woods; Navajo Sam; Nagasaki Johnson on Tactics; Mama Rue on Eostar; Creative Littering.

BELTANE May 1, 1983 (Vol. III, No. IV) Bald Mt Blockade; GO Road; Howie Wolke on Moderation; EF! Wyoming Wilderness Proposal; Canyonlands Nuke Dump; Maze Tar Sands; EF! Smashes Earth Last!; Ned Ludd/Helicopters; California Desert Sellout by BLM; Otter G'Zell on Whales; Mama Rue on Beltane; *Reenchantment of the World* Review; John Seed on Australia Rainforest Direct Action; Bigfoot Interview.

LITHA June 21, 1983 (Vol. III, No. V) Wilderness War in Oregon; Bald Mt Blockaders' Personal Accounts; Mama Rue on Summer Solstice; EF! Wilderness Preserve System and Map; Head of Joaquin on Utah; EF! Glen Canyon Demonstration; Franklin River Victory in Australia; Ned Ludd/Radios; GO Road Stopped; Reform of the Forest Service; Ed Abbey on Conscience of the Conqueror.

YULE Dec. 22, 1983 (Vol. IV, No. II) Forest Service Attacks Wilds, National RARE II Suit, DARN Report, Wolke on the Forest Service; EF! Utah Wilderness Proposal; EF! Ishi Wilderness Proposal (California); How To Do An EF! Wilderness Proposal; Ed Abbey in Utah; EF! Black Rock Desert Wilderness Proposal(Nevada); Sinkyone Struggle; Greenpeace in Siberia; *An Ecological & Evolutionary Ethic* Review; Coors "Beer," Chim Blea on the Humanpox; Ned Ludd/Vehicle Modifications.

BRIGID Feb. 2, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. III) Oregon *RARE II* Suit; EF! Idaho Wilderness Proposal; Tuolumne; Forest Service Arrogance; Ned Ludd/Smoke Bombs; Head of Joaquin on Trapping; Coors in Shenandoah.

EOSTAR March 20, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. IV) Burger King Protest; Shipwrecked Environmentalism; Solomon Island Rainforest Action; Bald Mt Road Crumbles; Southern Utah Wilderness; Dave Brower/Muir's Disciple by Bill Devall; Ned Ludd/Tree Spiking & No Evidence; Mama Rue on Enlightenment; 1984 Road Show; Photos of Daintree Buried Protestors.

BELTANE May 1, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. V) Cabinet Mts Grizzlies & Mining; Forest Service Appeals Form; Wolke on the Role of EF!; EF! Owyhee Wilderness Proposal(Idaho, Oregon & Nevada); Angel Dusting Grizzlies; Middle Santiam; Colorado Recreation Dollars; EF! Arizona Wilderness Proposal; Arctic Wildlife Refuge Violated; Bolt Weevils; Devall on the Australian Environmental Movement; Ned Ludd/Survey Stakes & Disabling Vehicles; Deep Ecology & Reproduction; Save the Tuolumne Rally.

LITHA June 20, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. VI) Middle Santiam Blockade; Chim Blea on the Big Outside; Cabinet Mts & Grizzly; Coors in Shenandoah; Saguaro National Monument Mine; Murder on Key Largo; Burger King Demonstrations; Daintree Rainforest; Ned Ludd/Rising & Falling Birds; EF! Protests Canyonlands Nuke Dump; *Sterile Forest* Review; Basic Principles of Deep Ecology; Sinkyone Continues.

LUGHNASADH Aug. 1, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. VII) Middle Santiam Blockade; EF! Occupies Montana Senator's Office; North American Bioregional Congress; Round River Rendezvous; Montana on Civil Disobedience; Petroleum Conflicts with Wilderness Analyzed; Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About The Forest Service Part 1 by Bobcat; Sacred Cows; Foreman on Professionalism; Hunting Wild Life; Devall and Sessions on the Books of Deep Ecology.

SAMHAIN Nov. 1, 1984 (Vol. V, No. I) EF! Occupies Regional Forester's Office (Oregon); Hardest Avengers Spike Trees; Old Growth Rally; "What Do You Expect To Accomplish?"; Cop Raid on Bald Mt; Your Taxes Destroy Rainforest; Down (With) The Amazon; Green Politics; Elfbusters; Roxby Downs in Australia; Wilderness — the Global Connection; Ned Ludd/Water & Machines; Forest Service Appeal Form; Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About The Forest Service Part 2 by Bobcat; Direct Action by Devall & Sessions; Gary Snyder: Song of the Taste; Beyond Sacred Cows; Stiles in Defense of Dogs.

YULE Dec. 21, 1984 (Vol. V, No. II) Texas Wilderness Logged; 30,000 Miles of Road in RARE II Areas; Bridger-Teton Forest Supervisor; Alaska: Kadashan, Denali, & Johnny Sagebrush; Middle Santiam Trials; Japan Grizzly; German Nuke Dump; Chipko; Solomon Islands Rainforest; Daintree Rainforest Buried Protest; Environmental Professionalism Discussion; 1984: Wilderness Boom or Bust?; A National Range Service; Non-Game; Devall on Whither Environmentalism?; Cecelia Ostrow on Deep Ecology; Hardesty Mt Tree Spiking; Ed Abbey on *Ecodefense*.

BRIGID Feb. 2, 1985 (Vol. V, No. III) Meares Island; Military Land Grab in West (Supersonic Overflights); Mission Symposium; FS Employment Tyranny; National Park Mining; Florida Panther; Shooting Wolves from Air; Cathedral Forest Petition; North Kalmiopsis; Criticizing the Environmental Movement; End of the Yellowstone Grizzly?; In Defense of Western Civilization; Stop Planting Trout; Ned Ludd/Bigfoot.

EOSTAR March 20, 1985 (Vol. V, No. IV) Rocky Mountain Gas Drilling; EF! Gives DOE Nuke Waste; Montana Wilderness Demos; Yellowstone Grizzly Management; Texas Demo; Rainforest Report; Swedish River; Wayne NF; Southern Utah; King Range; Arctic NWR Desecrated; Joseph Canyon; John Day Mining; Great Exchange; Acid Rain; In Defense of Humor; Wolke on Hunting; Nagasaki on Symbols & Lifestyles; Biocentrism of Western Civilization; Ned Ludd/Advanced Billboarding.

BELTANE May 1, 1985 (Vol. V, No. V) Yellowstone's Watergate, Snowmobiles in Yellowstone, Alabama Wilderness, Denali Mine, Grand Canyon Mine, Middle Santiam, Welfare Ranchers, Great Exchange, Welcome to Earth First!, Critters Protest Bighorn NF Plan, RNR Management, Beaverhead NF, Pine Beetles, African Parks Poisoned, Real Environmental Professionalism, Dark Side of Wilderness, Review of *Fragmented Forest*.

LITHA June 21, 1985, (Vol. V, No. VI) Road Frenzy, Tree Climbing Hero, Old Growth Actions in Oregon, EF! Guide to NF Planning, Aircraft in Grand Canyon, Mt. Graham Observatory, Jarbidge Elk, Hells Canyon, Grand Canyon Mine, Rainforest Insert & Ten Questions, King Range, Mike Frome on Fat Cat Conservationists, Review of *Meeting the Expectations of the Land*, Review of *In the Rainforest*, Strategic Monkeywrenching, Advanced Tree Spiking, Tyrone (WI) Nuke.

LUGHNASADH August 1, 1985 (Vol. V, No. VII) Battle for Millenium Grove, 3 Bears in Yellowstone, Oregon Overview, Montana (Hall Creek Well, RARE II bill, Swan Range Motocross), Yellowstone Bison, Mike Frome on Yellowstone, Washington Rendezvous, Ozark NF, Stikine River Dams, Mogollon Rim Logging, Salmon River, Mt. Rainier Shit, '85 RRR, Dreaming Big Wilderness, Jeff Sirmon, Tree Spiking & Moral Maturity, Deep Ecology & Life Style, Blade Ruiner: Tree Pining, Wolke Busted, Fire Stops Logging, Hands-On Forest Planning, Valve Lapping Compound, Lone Wolf on Animal Music, Reviews: *Emerald Forest, Green Politics, Chuang Tzu, Internatl Envir. Policy*.

MABON September 22, 1985 (Vol. V, No. VIII) Arizona EF! (Overview, Mt. Graham, Grand Canyon Mines & Helicopters, Cliff Damn, Coconino Roads), Texas Wilderness Logging, Militarization of the West, Nevada Wilderness, France Sinks Rainbow Warrior, Notes from a Maturing Tree-Hugger, Utah BLM Wilderness, Gila Wilderness, Stikine River, Florida Wilderness Recovery, Eastern Forest Preserves, Natives & Natural Peoples, Ecological Decay/Political Violence, Blade Ruiner: Ceramic Spikes, Lone Wolf on Country Music, Reviews: *Who Speaks for Wolf, Seeing Green, Parable of the Tribes, Natural Alien*.

SAMHAIN November 1, 1985 (Vol. VI, No. I) Battle for The Bear, Mt. Graham Scopes, Clockwork Grizzly, Ski Yellowstone, Grant Village, Montana EF! Climbs Marais Pass Monument, Hells Canyon Logging, Austalian Woodchipping, Colorado Water Diversions, Environment & Peace, Stein Valley (BC) Logging, Louisiana-Pacific Strike, Camel Cigs Against Rainforest, Carole King on Idaho Wilderness, Rainforest Insert, Mann Creek (ID), Wild Horses, Second Thoughts on Fire, Blade Ruiner: Ceramic Spikes II, A Cop on Security, Lone Wolf Circles on Poetry, Recommended Periodicals, Reviews: *Cry Wolf, Meares Island, Earth Wisdom*.

YULE December 21, 1985 (Vol. VI, No. II) Highjacking of FOE, Colorado EF!, Texas EF!, EF! in Southern California, Bay Area EF!, Maine (Big A Damn, Straight Bay Damn), Sinkyone, Congress on Griz, Pinnacles Pigs, SS Watt, Japan, British Columbia Wilderness Logging, Thinking Like a Rainforest, Big Mountain Relocation, Australia Update, International Rainforest Conference, Blade Ruiner: Quartz Tree Spikes, Trapping, Wolves & Moose in Alaska, Bioregional Approach to Wilderness, Montana Sellout, Spotted Owls, Lone Wolf Circles on Indian Music, Reviews: *Turning Point, Nuclear Battlefields, Declaration of a Heretic, Death of Nature, American Hunting Myth, Parable of the Tribes* reply.

BRIGID February 2, 1986 (Vol. VI, No. III) Cutting the Tongass, Dian Fossey, CO EF!, '86 RRR, Gallatin NF, Oregon Update, Colo. Aspen, Calif. Condor, Desert Eagles, Hall Creek Protest, Bruneau Snail, Bleeding Utah, EF! Acid Rain, Texas Bogsy Creek, Designer Genes, Seed in India, South Moresby, World Rainforest Report #5, Foreman on Cowboys, Stoddard on Death, Feb. Pagan Festivals, Wuerthner on Forest Fire, Technology & Mountain Thinking, Spiking Refinements, Lone Wolf Circles on Gary Snyder, Stephanie Mills: RRR Thoughts, Reviews: Books on Mountain Lions and Grizzlies.

EOSTAR March 20, 1986 (Vol. VI, No. IV) Howie Jailed; Yellowstone Supt.: "Shove It!"; Fishing Bridge Suit; Montana Road Show; Flathead NF Plan; Nat'l Old Growth Campaign; Hells Canyon; Tahoe NF Plan; Taxes & Forest Destruction; Hierarchy & Grassroots in Sierra Club; Suwannee River; Snoqualmie River; Texas Pipeline; Cheyenne Bottoms; Restoring Salmon Streams; Howling Wilderness?; Gourd of Ashes; Desertification & Plant Genetic Resources; Wagon Wilderness; Suburbanizing the Bush; Public Interest Law Liability; Lone Wolf Circles on Folk Music; BC Rejects Native Management; Reviews: Sacred Paw, Gifting Birds, Restoring the Earth, State of the World 1985, The Earth Speaks, Language of the Birds, Mad Max & Streetwise, Fire From the Mountain; Ned Ludd: Radios, Mountain Bikes; Legend of Tiny Tonka; Desert Rivers; Notes from Ultima Thule.

BELTANE May 1, 1986 (Vol. VI, No. V) EF! Utah BLM Wilderness Proposal; EF! Griz Recovery Plan; Why Grizzlies Die in Y'stone; Neches River; BLM-FS Interchange; Memories of a Tree Climber; Acid Rain in BWCA; Los Padres NF; San Bruno Mt; Colo Aspens; Mt. Graham; Anti-herbicide Researcher Fired; Poisoning Saguaros; Eating As If Nature Mattered; Smokey the Bear Sutra; Animal Rights vs. the Wilderness; Civilization Act; Schmookler on Anarchy; Rainbow Permit Controversy; Rocky Mt. Front — American Serengeti; Recreating Ohio Wilderness; Wonderful Famine; Frome on Conservation; Lone Wolf Circles on Poems by Jose; Reviews: *Gathering the Desert, Good Wild Sacred, Building the Green Movement, Africa in Crisis*, and the Work of Peter Matthiessen; Ned Ludd on *Outlaw's Bible*; Money in your Coffeepot.

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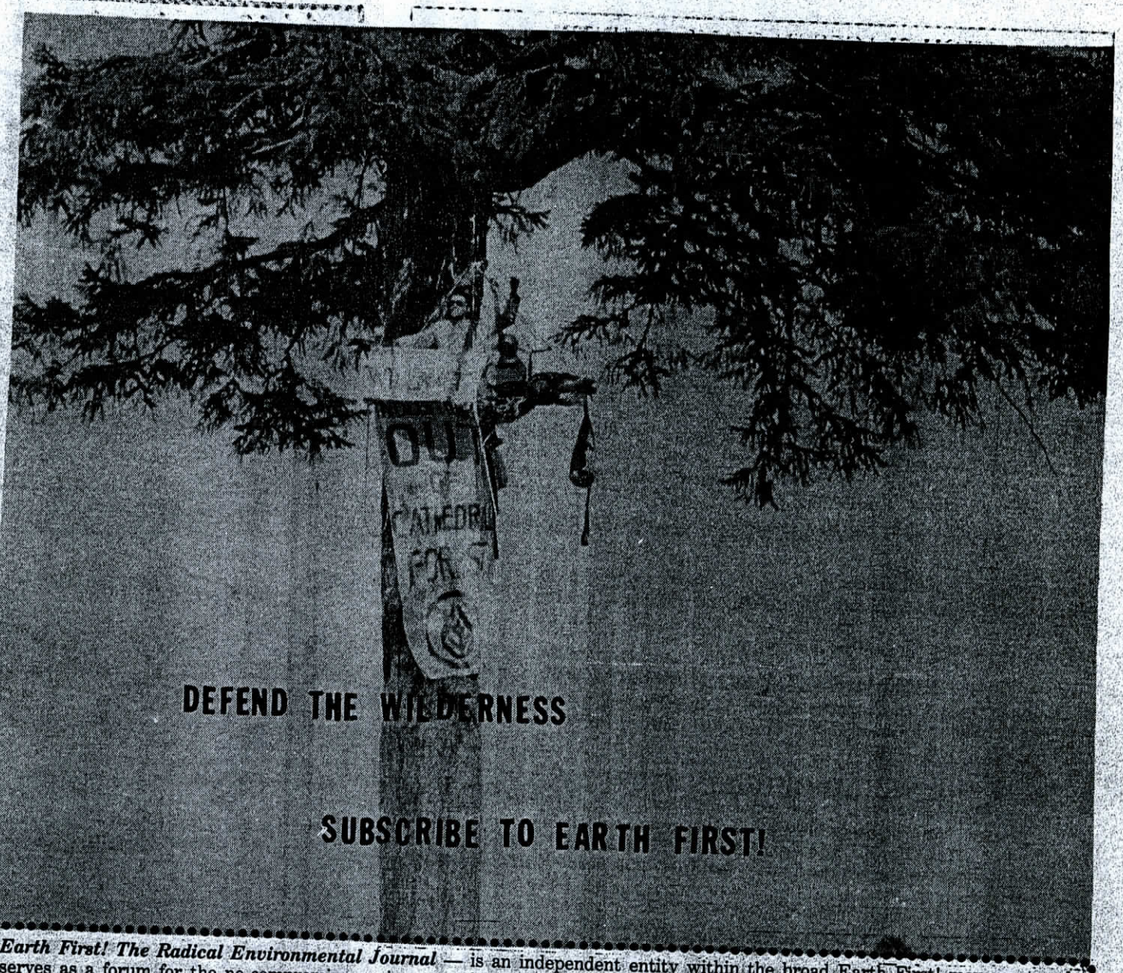

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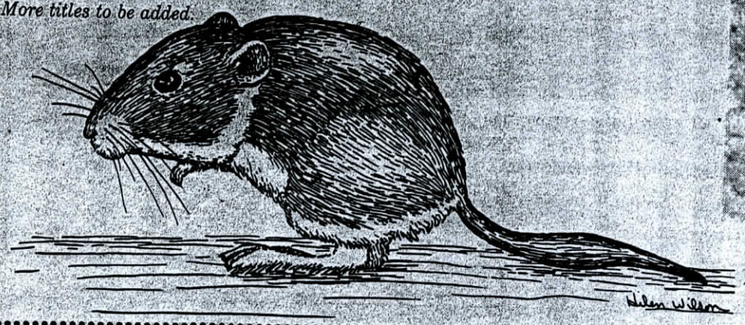

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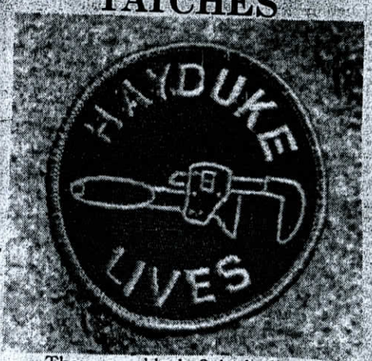

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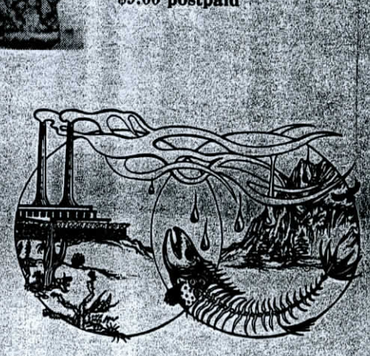

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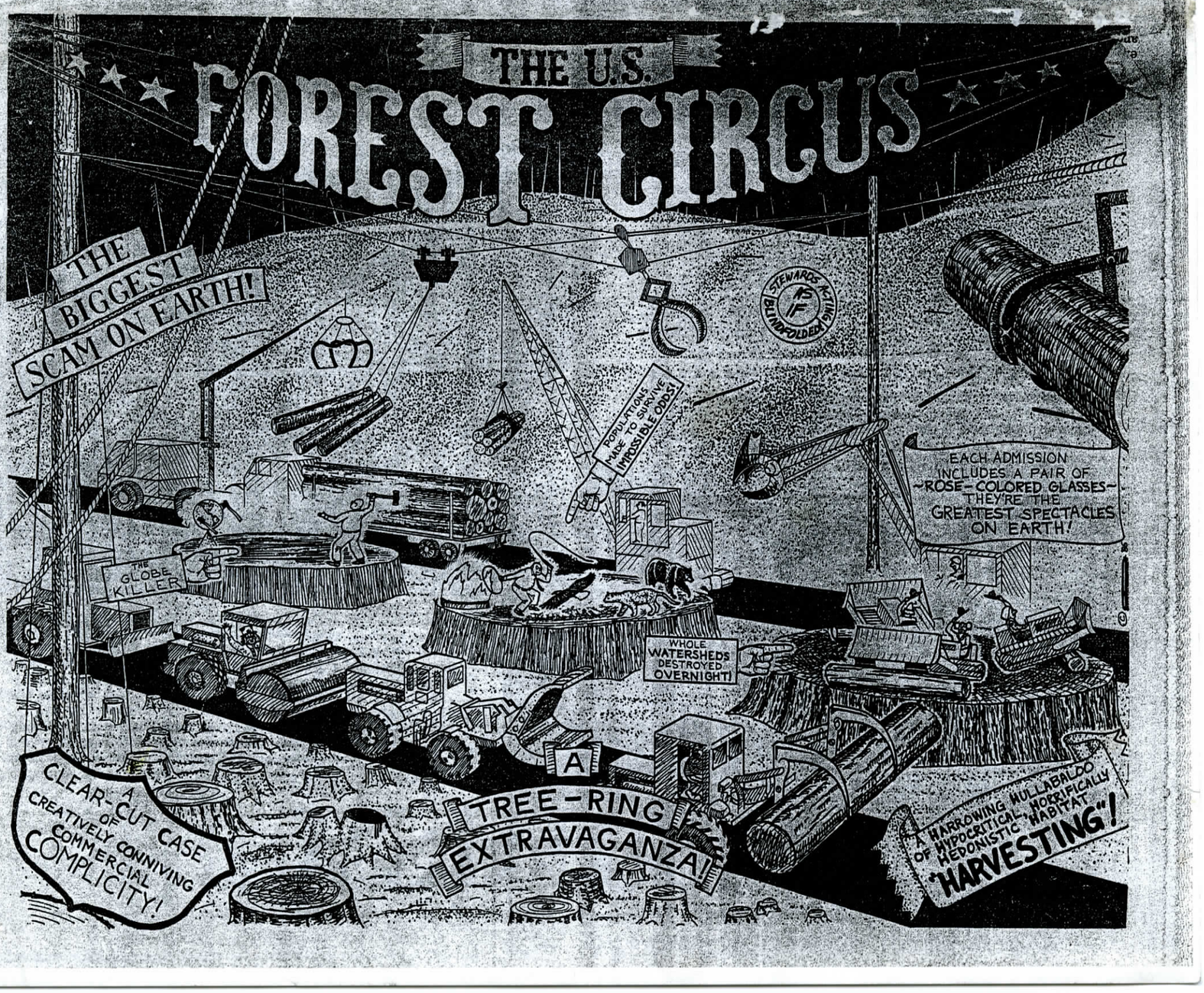
We've got a variety of camoflage baseball caps. They come in either woodland or desert camo. There's 100% cotton cloth backs or mesh backs. They all have adjustable tabs so one size fits all. The EF! fist logo and the words "EARTH FIRST!" are printed in black. Specify which style you want or we'll jsut send you what we think is best. **$8.00 postpaid**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